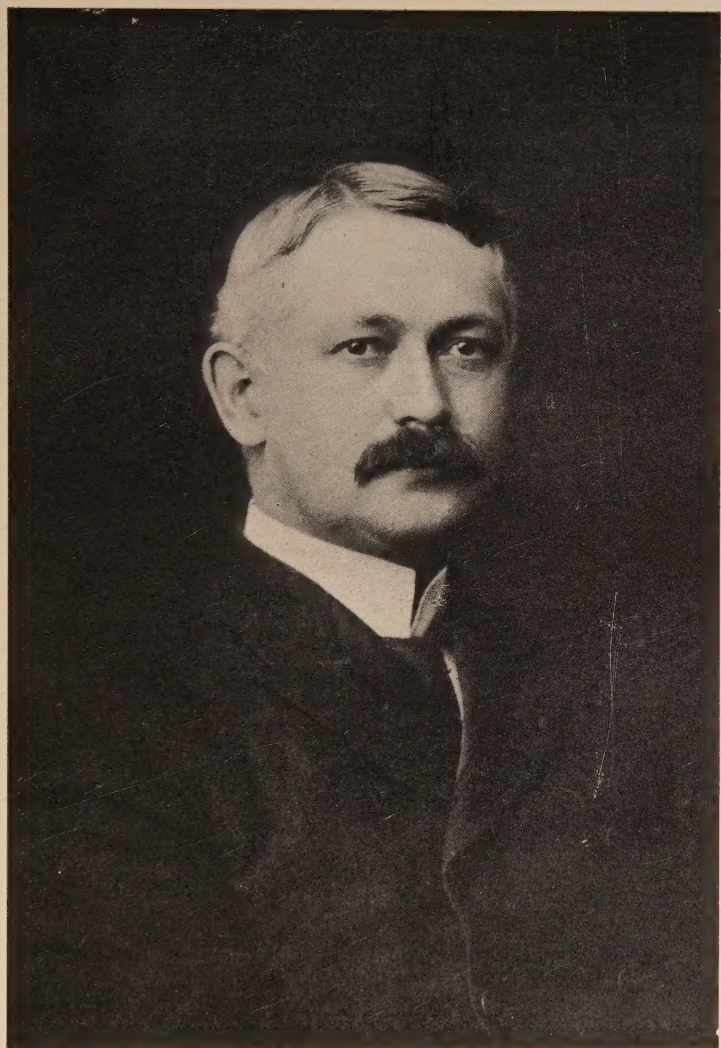




To my old friend
Joseph D. Peabody
best wishes

E. C. Drake
August 1905.





BENTON LODGE, No. 88,

A. F. & A. M.

Guildhall, Vermont.



PRINTED FOR THE LODGE,
1905.

FOREWORD.

Masonry in the North Country had its beginning in the section which is comprised in the territory having perpetual right in the Guildhall Public Library.

Here in the upper Connecticut Valley the pioneers were the best that ever settled any part of "God's footstool." They were a strong race, God fearing, honorable, loyal, devoted, charitable and noble. Their descendants with few exceptions have endeavored to keep the standard, as originally planted at Lancaster and Guildhall, high.

Remote sections of their States being in a great measure isolated by natural obstructions, noble Coos in the extreme north end of New Hampshire and gallant little Essex off in the northeast corner of Vermont have no apologies to make as to their ancestors, their part in the history of their States and the nation, or their interest, love and devotion to their country, to Masonry and the Christian religion.

North Star Lodge, No. 8, was chartered December 18, 1797, at Northumberland, and its first meetings were held in the beautiful homestead now occupied by Brother Hannaford, about one-half mile distant from the Guildhall lodge room. In 1800 North Star Lodge was removed to Lancaster. Among its early members were many from the Vermont side of the river, just as many members of Benton Lodge, No. 88, are from New Hampshire.

The history of the mother Lodge across the river has been so ably told by many distinguished Masons, that this sketch will not attempt to include any of their records except as they may affect the establishing of our Lodge. But nevertheless we are all one people, and though divided by State lines we must ever bear in mind that we are "descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature and share the same hope."

The following pages contain many of the facts leading up to the establishment of a Masonic Lodge in Guildhall. For assistance from friends I return sincere thanks, and with the very best wishes to all I remain,

Fraternally,

EVERETT C. BENTON.

GUILDHALL, VT., May, 1905.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,
A. F. & A. M.,
Guildhall, Vermont.

BOSTON, MASS., July 10, 1900.

W. SCOTT NAY,
Grand Master,
UNDERHILL, VT.

M. W. SIR AND BROTHER:—

I am about to present my native town, Guildhall, Vt., a Public Library, together with a suitable building.

As I am very much interested in Masonry, and as there are only two Lodges in the county, one at the northwesterly corner and one at the extreme southwesterly end, I think that Guildhall, being on the river and nearly half-way in the county, is well situated to have a Masonic Lodge there established.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

I take a great interest in my native county, its history and its future, and I know of no way to help a community more than to have in it a Masonic Lodge.

If this can be done I will construct another story to the building, and furnish it all ready for the Lodge to start operations without expense to them.

Will you please advise me how many you require to get charter? When can one be granted? What are the charges for degrees and dues?

I think there are only two or three Masons in all adjoining towns, but suppose those who desire to join could go to West Concord or Island Pond, and then demit.

I have copy of your Grand Lodge Report for 1899, kindly loaned me by the genial Librarian of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Bro. Oliver A. Roberts. Will you please mail me a copy as I wish to return this; also advise who is District Deputy for this territory?

I am going up to Guildhall next week, and I shall be glad to call on him.

I can refer you to any one in Essex County who knows of me or of my father, who was for thirty years County Clerk, and a member of Island Pond Lodge.

Yours fraternally,

EVERETT C. BENTON.

Guildhall, Vermont.

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT,
F. AND A. M.,
W. SCOTT NAY, *Grand Master*.

UNDERHILL, VT., July 19, 1900.

E. C. BENTON,

GUILDHALL, VT.

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date, and hasten to reply. The charitable spirit you manifest is truly commendable, and I congratulate the people of your native town, because of your loyalty to it, which you purpose to manifest in a way which will prove the best monument to your memory, and to the memory of your ancestors, whom you doubtless wish to honor.

The queries relating to the Masonic Hall idea command attention and interest from me, and is one which, I assure you, I will aid you in to the best of my ability. I can readily see how, under the circumstances, a Lodge of Masons might flourish at Guildhall, on account of accommodating several brothers who now find it necessary to go to Island Pond, West Concord, or even to Lancaster in N. H., and presume a constitutional number might be found who would wish to form a new Lodge upon the conditions you mention, although they do not reside in Guildhall, which is not necessary. Even some across the river might be better accommodated by having a Lodge

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

there. The following is Masonic law relating to the organization of new Lodges :—

“When *seven* Master Masons, at least, are desirous of organizing a Lodge, they apply by petition to the Grand Master of the jurisdiction for the necessary authority. This petition must set forth that they now are, or have been, members of a legally constituted Lodge, and must assign a satisfactory reason for their application. It must also be recommended by the nearest Lodge, and must designate the place where the Lodge is intended to be held, and the names of the persons whom the petitioners desire to be appointed as Master and Wardens.

“Seven things must therefore concur to give regularity to the form of a petition for a dispensation. *First*: There must be seven signers at least. *Second*: They must all be Master Masons. *Third*: They must be in good standing. *Fourth*: There must be a good reason for the organization of a Lodge at that time and place. *Fifth*: The place of meeting must be designated. *Sixth*: The names of the three officers must be stated. *Seventh*: It must be recommended by the nearest Lodge.”

Of course, many things are to be taken into consideration besides. There should be a sufficient number of *interested* Masons to maintain a Lodge,—who would procure suitable regalia, pay for charter, and be prepared to fulfil all the obligations of Master Masons.

Guildhall, Vermont.

The fees and dues are established by the Lodge, but the Grand Lodge By-Laws require that they *shall not be less* than \$10.00 for an initiation, \$2.00 for passing, and \$3.00 for raising. They can be as much more as thought advisable.

The District Deputy for Caledonia and Essex Counties (District No. 12 on our register) is William M. Rich, of West Concord. I send our proceedings for 1899 by this mail, and will forward you a copy of our 1900 proceedings as soon as ready.

I think this answers all your questions, but if anything further is desired, kindly write me at any time, and I shall be pleased to give you an early reply.

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

W. SCOTT NAY, *Grand Master*.

July 31, 1900.

W. SCOTT NAY, *Grand Master*,

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT, F. AND A. M.

M. W. SIR AND BROTHER:—

We, the undersigned Master Masons, in good standing in the respective Lodges indicated below, are desirous of organizing a Masonic Lodge at Guildhall, Vermont, and we hereby petition you for the necessary authority.

We would present as a good reason to grant this petition that there is no Lodge of Masons in Essex

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

County near Guildhall, and that by the establishment of a Lodge at this place it would not materially injure any other Lodge, but would be of great and lasting benefit to this locality, and that in all probability a strong Lodge can be established and maintained, which will be a credit to the fraternity.

The place of meeting will be in Grange Hall, in Guildhall Village (which is a suitable temporary place for meeting), until such time as the building which is to be erected (provided this petition is granted) in Guildhall Village, can be constructed and fitted, which will be done subject to such rules and regulations as you may in your good judgment indicate or direct.

We would suggest, and it is our desire to have appointed as Master, Everett C. Benton; as Senior Warden, Frank N. Piper; and as Junior Warden, Augustus Drew.

EVERETT C. BENTON	BELMONT, MASS.
<i>Belmont Lodge, F. & A. M.</i>	
FRANK N. PIPER	GUILDHALL, VT.
<i>Island Pond Lodge, F. A. M.</i>	
AUGUSTUS DREW	GUILDHALL, VT.
<i>Moose River Lodge, No. 82.</i>	
GEO. F. MARTIN	GUILDHALL, VT.
<i>North Star, No. 8, Lancaster.</i>	
R. H. PHILBRICK	GUILDHALL, VT.
<i>North Star, No. 8, Lancaster.</i>	
E. S. FREEMAN	GUILDHALL, VT.
<i>North Star, No. 8, Lancaster.</i>	
A. L. HALL	LANCASTER, N. H.
<i>North Star, No. 8.</i>	
STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS	GROVETON, N. H.
<i>Moose River, No. 82.</i>	
SIDNEY G. MATTHEWS	GROVETON, N. H.
<i>North Star, No. 8.</i>	

Guildhall, Vermont.

As the petition of July 31, 1900, for dispensation, was not in the language as laid down in the Grand Lodge Rules, and as demits were required before any Mason belonging to a Lodge outside the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Vermont could sign, a second petition was forwarded on September 12, together with demits, as required.

GUILDHALL, VT., September 12, 1900.

W SCOTT NAY,

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF MASONS
OF THE STATE OF VERMONT.

M. W. SIR AND BROTHER:—

The undersigned petitioners, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, being willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry, and for the convenience of their respective dwellings, and for other good reasons, respectfully represent :

That they are desirous of forming a new Lodge at
Guildhall, in the County of Essex, State of Vermont,
to be named Lodge.

They, therefore, pray for Letters of Dispensation, to empower them to assemble as a lawful Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the ancient forms of the Fraternity, and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

They have nominated and do recommend —
Bro. Everett C. Benton, to be the first Worshipful
Master ; Bro. Frank N. Piper, to be the first Senior
Warden ; and Bro. Augustus Drew, to be the first
Junior Warden of said Lodge.

If the prayer of this petition shall be granted, they
promise a strict conformity to all the constitutional
laws, rules and regulations of the Fraternity, and of
the Grand Lodge.

FRANK N. PIPER,
*Island Pond Lodge, No. 44, A. F. &
A. M., Island Pond, Vermont.*

AUGUSTUS DREW,
Moose River Lodge, No. 82.

STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS,
Moose River.

ALBERT W. SCOTT,
Moose River.

JOHN W. DOWNER,
Moose River.

ROYAL H. PHILBRICK,
North Star, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.

GEORGE F. MARTIN,
North Star, No. 8.

E. S. FREEMAN,
North Star, No. 8.

A. L. HALL,
North Star, No. 8.

S. G. MATTHEWS,
North Star, No. 8.

EVERETT C. BENTON,
Belmont Lodge, Belmont, Mass.

at a Regular Communication of Moose River Lodge - held in
Moose Hall - West Concord N.H. Aug. 4th 1900 -

It was voted unanimous to grant the request of Brother
E. C. Benton and others for the formation of a Lodge of
Masons at Guildford.

and

we recommend that the request be granted by the
Grand Master,

Wm. R. D. Johnson, N. H. (Rich. W. M.,

Approved

W. M. Rich

Aug. 12th Dec.

West Concord N.H. Aug 4 1900.

~~Edward W. Bunker~~ Belmont, Mass
Belmont Lodge F. & M.
Frank N. Piper Guildhall Vt
Island Pond Lodge F. & M.
Augustus Drew Guildhall Vt

Moose River Lodge
No 82
Levi E. Murtin Guildhall Vt
North Star No. 8 Lancaster

R. H. Philbrick Guildhall Vt
North Star No 8 Lancaster
E. J. Freeman Guildhall Vt
North Star No 8 Lancaster
A. L. Hall

Lancaster N H
North Star No 8.
Stephen M. Matthews Groton N H
Moose River No 82
Sidney E. Matthews Groton N H
North Star No 8



GRANGE HALL, GUILDHALL, VT.

Guildhall, Vermont.

DEMIT GRANTED BY NORTH STAR
LODGE, No. 8, LANCASTER, N. H.

*To all Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, the
W. M. and Brethren of North Star Lodge, No. 8,
located at Lancaster, N. H., U. S. A., sendeth
Greeting:*

LANCASTER, N. H., September 11, 1900.

This is to certify that Bros. George F. Martin, Ezra S. Freeman, Sidney G. Matthews, Alfred L. Hall and Royal H. Philbrick, members of North Star Lodge, No. 8, in good and regular standing, their dues being all paid to date, have at their own request this day, been granted demits to enable them to affiliate with a Lodge of A. F. & A. M., about to be instituted at Guildhall, Vt., U. S. A.

Witness our hands and the seal of our Lodge, at Lancaster, N. H., this twelfth day of September, 1900, A. L. 5900.

HARRY B. CARPENTER,

Worshipful Master.

MARSHALL D. RICHARDSON,

Secretary.

[SEAL]

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

DEMIT GRANTED BY BELMONT LODGE,
BELMONT, MASS.

TO ALL TRUE AND REGULAR LODGES OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS :

*Belmont Lodge of Belmont under the jurisdiction of
the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, sends
greeting :*

WHEREAS, Brother EVERETT C. BENTON, who has
signed his name in the margin hereof, has regularly
withdrawn from membership in said Lodge above
named, in conformity with its By-Laws :

We do hereby grant him THIS TESTIMONIAL, in
accordance with the vote of said Lodge, and cordially
recommend him as a suitable Brother for Affiliation
in such Lodge as he may desire to become a
member of.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of Belmont Lodge,
at Belmont, this 6th day of September, A. L. 5900.

GEORGE C. FLETT,

Worshipful Master.

CHAS. H. HOULAHAN,

Secretary.

[SEAL.]

Guildhall, Vermont.

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT,

F. AND A. M.,

W. SCOTT NAY, *Grand Master.*

UNDERHILL, VT., Sept. 20, 1900.

To all whom it may concern :

Know ye that I, W. Scott Nay, Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Vermont, having received a petition from a constitutional number of brethren, to wit: Everett C. Benton, Frank N. Piper, Augustus Drew, Stephen M. Matthews, Albert W. Scott, John W. Downer, Royal H. Philbrick, George F. Martin, E. S. Freeman, A. L. Hall, and S. G. Matthews, who have been properly vouched for as Master Masons in good standing, setting forth that having the honor and prosperity of the Craft at heart, they are desirous of establishing a new Lodge at Guildhall, under the Masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and requesting a Dispensation for the same; and there appearing to be a good and sufficient cause for granting the prayer of said petition, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Ancient Constitutions of the Institution, do grant this my Dispensation empowering Brother Everett C. Benton to act as Worshipful Master, Brother Frank N. Piper to act as Senior Warden, and Brother Augustus Drew to act as Junior Warden of a Lodge to be held under the

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

jurisdiction aforesaid at Guildhall, by the name of Benton Lodge, U. D., and authorizing said brethren therein, to admit and make Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons, in accordance with the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity, obeying in all things the Constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Lodge, and not otherwise.

And it shall be their duty, and they are hereby required to return this Dispensation, with a correct transcript of all proceedings had under the authority of the same, together with an attested copy of their By-Laws, to the Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication, for examination, and such further action as shall then be deemed wise and proper.

This Dispensation to continue in full force till the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, aforesaid, unless sooner revoked by me.

Given under my hand and seal at Underhill, this 20th day of September, A. D. 1900, A. L. 5900.

(SIGNED) W. SCOTT NAY,

Grand Master.

(SIGNED) W. G. REYNOLDS,

Grand Secretary.

[SEAL.]

Guildhall, Vermont.

FIRST COMMUNICATION.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1900.

First Regular Communication of Benton Lodge, U. D, A. F. & A. M., held in Grange Hall, Guildhall, Vermont, September 26, 1900, A. L. 5900.

Lodge opened in form at 7.15 P. M. in Third Degree.

The following officers elected, viz.: George F. Martin, Treasurer; Stephen M. Matthews, Secretary.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, W. Scott Nay, announced and introduced to the Lodge, and he was received with the honors due his rank.

Other Grand Lodge officers admitted and presented to the Lodge, and received with the honors due their rank.

Remarks upon By-Laws for Benton Lodge.

Motion made by Bro. A. W. Scott, that a committee be appointed to draft By-Laws to be adopted later.

Voted to adopt Third Thursday of each month for regular communications.

Motion by Bro. F. N. Piper and seconded by Bro. A. W. Scott, that the fees for the Three Degrees be placed at twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), five dollars with application, \$5.00 First Degree, \$5.00 Second Degree, and \$10.00 for Third Degree.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Motion by Bro. F. N. Piper, that the annual dues be two (\$2.00) dollars, payable at the Annual Communication in April.

The following officers appointed by W. M. E. C. Benton, viz. :—

- Bro. A. W. Scott, S. D.
- “ S. G. Matthews, J. D.
- “ A. L. Hall, S. S.
- “ J. W. Downer, J. S.
- “ E. S. Freeman, Chaplain.
- “ R. H. Philbrick, Tyler.

Remarks by M. W. G. M., W. Scott Nay.

Historic gavel presented to Lodge, with remarks explaining its historic value.

The following applications for degrees received :—

- Samuel T. Rogers,
- Rufus K. Poole,
- Richard Beattie,
- Fred L. Follansby.

For membership :—

- Robert Chase.

Cash receipts (\$20.00) twenty dollars.

Remarks by M. W. Bro. Bacon of Passumpsic Lodge of St. Johnsbury, and by R. W. Bro. Rich, of Moose River Lodge, No. 82, of West Concord.

Voted, the Worshipful Master appoint a committee of three to draft By-Laws, and to report at next Communication.

Guildhall, Vermont.

Following appointed as committee by W. M. E. C. Benton :—Bros. F. N. Piper, A. W. Scott, S. M. Matthews.

The following visitors were present : —
Bros.

W. Scott Nay, G. M., Jericho, Vt.
Chas. R. Montague, G. S. W., Woodstock, Vt.
Delos M. Bacon, P. G. M., St. Johnsbury, Vt.
W. G. Reynolds, G. S., Burlington, Vt.
D. S. Danforth, P. S. D., St. Albans, Vt.
H. S. Root, P. J. D., Newport, Vt.
A. R. Bush, G. S. D., Orwell, Vt.
W. E. Ranger, G. L., Lyndonville, Vt.
E. E. Smith, G. J. D., West Fairlee, Vt.
Albert Killan, G. J. S., Burlington, Vt.
H. D. Bryant, G. T., Morrisville, Vt.
W. M. Rich, R. W. D. D. G. M., West Concord, Vt.

Following letter read : —

LEXINGTON, MASS., September 20, 1900.

COL. E. C. BENTON.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER : — I am in receipt of your invitation to the laying of the corner stone of the Public Library and Masonic Building for the 27th inst., and sincerely regret my inability to be present. As the Worshipful Master who gave you the symbolic degrees, I congratulate the new Lodge at Guildhall, on their first Worshipful Master, and hope that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you preside in the

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

East some day in the future. Our old Lodge has already sent a gavel, made of wood that causes the very thrill of the spirit of the past to permeate the whole being of a patriotic American every time he grasps the handle. Its wood is a part of the Old Belfry from which was rung the alarm that called together the "Minute Men" of Lexington to found a nation, when roused by the midnight ride of Most Worshipful Bro. Paul Revere (afterwards Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts) on that memorable 19th of April, 1775. Thus in a feeble way does the Commonwealth of Hancock, Adams and Paul Revere through a small Masonic Lodge in its borders, send greetings to the land of Ethan Allen, and the Lodge at Guildhall.

Truly and fraternally yours,

G. W. SAMPSON.

Lodge closed in form at 10.15 P. M.

Officers and members present:

Bro. Everett C. Benton,
" Frank N. Piper,
" Augustus Drew,
" George F. Martin,
" Stephen M. Matthews,
" E. S. Freeman,
" Albert W. Scott,
" Sidney G. Matthews,
" A. L. Hall,
" John W. Downer,
" Royal H. Philbrick.

A true record.

S. M. MATTHEWS, *Secretary*.



BREAKING GROUND.

You are respectfully invited to attend the Exercises
at the laying of the Corner Stone for the
Public Library and Masonic Building,
by the
Grand Lodge of Vermont, A. F. and A. M.,
Most Worshipful W. SCOTT NAY, Grand Master,
GUILDHALL, VERMONT,
September 27, 1900,
at 12 M.

EVERETT C. BENTON.

Boston, Mass , September 12, 1900.

Kindly reply, addressing me at Guildhall, Vt., stating when you will arrive,
so that proper and adequate arrangements may be made by the Committee for
the entertainment of all.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

LAYING OF CORNER STONE.

Corner Stone The following account of the Exercises at the laying of the corner stone are taken from the account as given by Bro. W. H. Bishop, in the Essex County Herald of October 5, 1900.

Thursday, September 27, the corner stone of the new Public Library and Masonic Building, presented to the town of Guildhall by her generous, enterprising and hustling son, Col. E. C. Benton, of Boston, Mass., was laid with full Masonic ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of Vermont, Most Worshipful W. Scott Nay, Grand Master. The grand officers present were: —

W. Scott Nay, Underhill, M. W. G. M.

D. M. Bacon, St. Johnsbury, as R. W. D. G. M.

C. R. Montague, Woodstock, R. W. G. S. W.

H. S. Root, Newport, as R. W. G. J. W.

W. G. Reynolds, Burlington, R. W. G. Sec.

A. R. Bush, Orwell, W. G. S. D.

E. E. Smith, West Fairlee, W. G. J. D.

W. E. Ranger, Johnson, W. G. Lecturer.

E. S. Freeman, Guildhall, as W. G. Chap

D. S. Danforth, St. Albans, W. G. Mar.

A. Killam, Burlington, W. G. Steward.

H. D. Bryant, Morrisville, W. G. Tyler.

W. M. Rich, West Concord, R. W. D. D. G. M.

District No. 12.

The day was ushered in by a heavy downpour of rain, and it looked for a while as though the pro-

Guildhall, Vermont.

ceedings would be marred by bad weather. Happily, however, by 10 o'clock the storm had passed away, and soon thereafter the town was filled with visitors coming from all directions. Shortly after 12 M., the grand officers and the representatives of the various Lodges in attendance marched from the Court House to the building where the exercises were to take place, escorted by the officers and members of the newly organized Benton Lodge, Col. Benton, W. M.

In a cavity under the corner stone was placed a box containing a biographical sketch of the charter members of Benton Lodge, also a list of the grand officers present, each officer having written his own name.

Prayer was offered by Walter E. Ranger, W. G. Lecturer. Then came the impressive and interesting ceremony of trying of the corner stone by the square, the level and the plumb, followed by the Grand Master, announcing that the corner stone had been tested by the proper implements of Masonry; that the craftsmen had skillfully and faithfully performed their duty, and declared the stone to be well formed, true and trusty, and correctly laid according to the rules of the ancient craft. The elements of consecration were next presented: Corn was scattered as an emblem of plenty; Wine poured as an emblem of joy and gladness; Oil poured as an emblem of peace. The Grand Master then struck the stone three times

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Grand Master's Address. with the gavel, and the public grand honors were given, after which the Grand Master delivered a charming address, substantially as follows :—

“Ladies, Gentlemen and Brethren : It is a pleasant duty, and gratifying to every member of the Grand Lodge of Vermont here assembled, to perform the little task which calls us together.

“Not only are the brethren who form the nucleus for a new Masonic Lodge in this place to be congratulated because of the thoughtfulness and liberality of the donor of this beautiful building and its contents, but it should be a matter of rejoicing on the part of all the people of this place, and up and down this beautiful valley.

“While we recognize the great benefits to the present and future generations which will come from the library, we must not lose sight of, nor overlook the results which will follow the institution of a Masonic Lodge in your midst, for I am certain that motive which prompts the organization of such an institution is not only for the promotion of good and prosperity of its members, but for the public welfare as well.

“The true Mason is a better man, a better husband, a better father, and the underlying principles which govern us promotes good citizenship and public prosperity.”

Addressing Worshipful Brother Benton, he said :
“Although unconsciously it may be, yet it is true,



M. W. WINFIELD SCOTT NAY,
Past Grand Master of Masons of Vermont.

Guildball, Vermont.

nevertheless, that in the self-sacrifice and liberality which you have exhibited, a monument is being erected which is more lasting than chiseled marble, for in the hearts of your brothers and this people, your name will be remembered and spoken as a benefactor, a philanthropist and true friend.

"I can imagine that the unselfishness of such action on your part leads you with another to exclaim, 'I would rather live in the hearts of my friends, I would rather be remembered as having tried to be a good man and true Mason, I would rather have the approbation of a good conscience, than to have my features chiseled in marble, or my deeds recorded on parchment.'

"Our coming together to-day in this capacity is a step in Masonic progress. We learn to know each other better; we break bread together, and we find it pays, not only in the money chest, but in the treasury, — which empty, God pity us, — the treasury of the human heart.

"One of the pleasures of existence, and among the many bright spots in memory, is the recollections of having been a subject of love and esteem of the little ones. To us who are fathers, and who have learned to love the children as none others can, any testimonial of their regard which they can offer touches the finer sensibilities of one's own nature and only such can appreciate it. The children of this beautiful village, as a testimonial of their regard, offer

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

to Bro. Benton their tribute, and will now present it."

At the conclusion of this address four little misses presented their garlands of flowers, placing them at the corner stone, after which pretty ceremony, hands extended, the Grand Master made the following invocation: —

May the all-bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with an abundance of the necessities, conveniences and comforts of life; assist in the erection and completion of this building; protect the workmen against every accident; long preserve the structure from decay; and grant to us all a supply of the *corn of nourishment*, the *wine of refreshment*, and the *oil of joy*. Amen.

To which the officers and brethren responded, "So mote it be."

The Grand Lecturer, Walter E. Ranger, was next introduced. His subject was: "The Library as a Factor in Education, and Masonry as a Factor in Civilization."

"Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren, and Citizens of Guildhall: It is seemingly the part of the speaker to try in some degree to voice the essential meaning of this worthy and significant occasion. For Guildhall, one of the oldest towns in Vermont, being the seventh in the order of settlement, and having many an eventful day in its rich and honorable history of one hundred and thirty-six years, this is a notable day, and one worthy of the beautiful rites

Guildhall, Vermont.

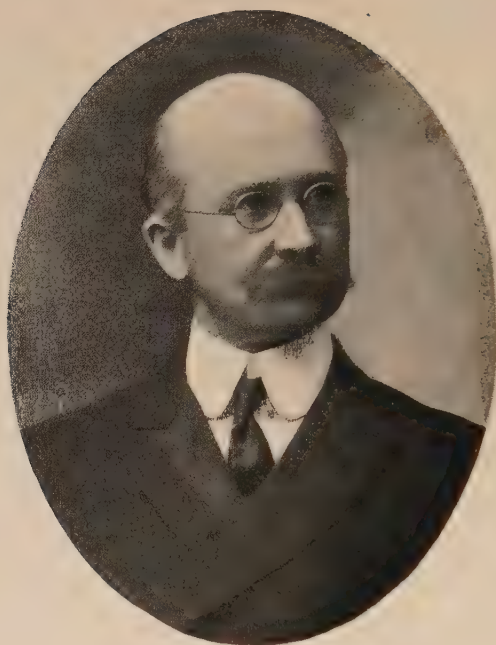
performed in its fitting observance. To-day we see the beginnings of a building, which under the cunning mind of the architect and the skilful hand of the artisan will become in the completed structure a charming adornment to this beautiful village and infinite service to its people. But he of deeper discernment and of truer vision may behold the establishment of two institutions, the one for knowledge and the other for higher moral life, both infinite in power and enduring in beneficence. To such this structure becomes a temple dedicated to the higher life of a people, devoted to the two-fold cause of culture and fraternity, and serving as a memorial of the benevolence of a noble and loyal heart.

“The corner stone of this building has been tested by the square, the level, and the plumb of the operative mason or builder. In a deeper sense the purpose of the founder, the principles of the unseen structure, and the fidelity of the receivers of its benefits have been or are to be proven by the square of virtue, by ‘the level that reminds us of equality,’ that element of life dear to every American, and by ‘the plumb that teaches rectitude of life.’ We have seen the emblems of plenty, of joy and of peace poured upon the stone. This significant ceremony symbolizes the essential consecration of this building and all it typifies and represents to the prosperity, happiness and peace of the people of Guildhall. Likewise it beautifully symbolizes the thoughtful affec-

Address
of
R. W. Bro.
Walter E.
Ranger.

tion, the kindness that is wisdom, and the beneficent service of its generous founder. And mingling with the deepest sentiments of our ceremonies is an earnest prayer, rising from every true heart, that God in His infinite goodness, through the instrumentality of both Lodge and Library, may bless this people abundantly, inspire them to nobler living, and bring them nearer to His likeness.

“The appreciation of the value of any institution in a community depends upon a consideration of its place in God’s economy of life. The end of life is life, as appears in the words of the Christ, ‘I am come that they might have life and might have it more abundantly.’ By a process of realization and enlargement of the higher, more enduring and essential life (heavenly treasure), man’s life becomes richer, purer and more abundant. ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’ It is the higher life of the spirit that man must seek. Spirit being is the ultimate, the essential reality. By a larger realization of spiritual life the race has developed from savagery to humanity. This life process of the development of man is called education in a broad sense. Taken in this sense, in the words of Wendell Phillips, ‘Education is the only interest worthy the deep, controlling anxiety of the thoughtful man.’ Education is the enlargement of the life of God in the heart of man. In the cause of such is the unity of all institutions that make for righteousness. To-day the one grand object of



PROF. WALTER E. RANGER.

Guilddball, Vermont.

organized Christian society is the betterment of the race.

"Among the institutions and factors which contribute most efficiently to the higher development of youth and manhood may be named the home, the school, the church, civic organizations, industrial occupations, sports and games, fraternal and social bodies, and libraries. We judge the culture, refinement and moral worth of a community by the outward symbols of these forces in education. Who would choose to live in a town where there was not a church or schoolhouse? This town has been fortunate in its homes, churches, schools and democratic government. One of its churches has honored a century of Christian fellowship and service, celebrated a year ago by a most worthy and inspiring observance. Its homes and schools have nurtured generations of sterling manhood and womanhood, and like other towns in our worthy State, has sent its sons and daughters forth to other parts of our great country, to become at times great leaders in human thought and action, and always to inspire, to serve and to bless by that excellence of life that is nourished in the homes of our green hills as the verdure that clothes them. Assuredly this people may regard this structure with grateful appreciation and honor, and entertain a deep gratification in the promise that ere long to other elevating influences are to be added the inspiring and educative influence of a public library

and the creation of a new force of fraternity and goodwill, in a Lodge of Masons, constantly manifesting, in some degree, in helpfulness and human sympathy, the spirit of Him who taught brotherly kindness and relieved the distress of the afflicted.

“A good library is one of the greatest and most direct means of a people's improvement. It soon becomes the centre of the intellectual life of the town, and affects the morals and manners of the entire community. It supplements the home, the church and the school. A Boston superintendent once said that the public library stands at the head of the educational system of a place, of which it is a part. It provides a liberal education in itself, and enables the pupil leaving school to continue his study. Said Milton: ‘A good book is the lifeblood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond.’ Said Carlyle: ‘All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books.’ Said Channing: ‘It is through books that we enjoy intercourse with superior minds. In the best books, great men talk to us, give us their most precious thoughts, and pour their souls into ours.’

“Modern culture and progress would have been impossible without books. Our growth is largely the appropriation and realization of what men have thought, done or lived. All this comes to us through books. A library is a reservoir of good to all who

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drink at its fountains. It makes for intelligence, human sympathy, generous thinking, and noble living. It is one of the great means to higher culture and essential life in a community. A free public library, like our free public school system, provides a means for better citizenship, by giving opportunities for betterment to all. It grows upon a people. The habit of reading is fostered. Those who never read begin to read, and those who read are inspired to read more.

“The service of a library is conditioned upon the faith, loyalty and zeal of those who care for it and of those who receive its benefits. Great care must be exercised in the details of administration. But such an institution cannot fail to be successful, if it be attended by a great love of learning and of its use, and by a profound desire for the betterment of one's fellow men. Such a love, I am sure, has inspired the erection of this building for so noble a purpose and for so high a service. May we not confidently anticipate that the town that has been so favored by the benevolence of one of its sons will respond to such generosity with a strenuous co-operation, a loyal devotion to highest aims, a faithful care of the trust thus committed, and with a wise appropriation of the benefits conferred? I have said that this building is devoted, in its Library, to culture; in its Lodge, to fraternity. I have spoken of the Library as a factor in Education and I invite you now to a consideration of Masonary as a factor in Civilization.

“Civilization as a product is the fruition of the life of the race. But truth, beauty and goodness in the man is the life of God to him. Civilization is both human and divine. The building discloses the mind and heart of the architect. The firmament showeth God's handiwork. Man and nature, the sum of creations, are the issues of God's life out of His infinite heart. True, permanent civilization is an issue of God's life, and is the sum of all human achievement and experience, both visible and invisible life.

“Civilization as a power is the life of the race itself. There is one principle of universal, essential life, the everlasting God, the infinite and eternal Christ. The essential civilization is, then, the life of God in the hearts of men.

“All the truths of Masonry are God's truths. All the principles of our institution are the thoughts of God, conceived by mind or realized by heart in the consciousness of the Masonic fraternity. The essential, the true life, the power of good, in Masonry, is the life of God breathed into human hearts by His Holy Spirit.

“He who approaches the altar of Masonry with the true spirit approaches the invisible altar of the Supreme Creator of life and kneels in his presence. Through God's providence Masonry has taught, inspired, and energized love of man and love of God within human hearts, has taught the essentials of the

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divine life, and by His blessing has been a world-wide force in enlarging the life of God in the heart of an inspiring humanity.

“The progress of mankind constitutes civilization. The development of the race is the same story. Whatever form of true civilization may appear, we will find that it is but the expression or the issue of men, and that the spirit of Masonry is one with the spirit that animates the great heart of the universe.

“The achievements and ideals of civilization may be classed as industrial, political, social, ethical and religious. The progress of a race from barbarism to civilization is the story of every great people. Industrial achievements are the outward symbols of essential development. The difference between savagery and civilization is marked by the difference between the bark canoe and the Atlantic steamship, the frail wigwam and the marble palace, the long house of the tribe and the vaulted halls of legislation, the lonely trails in the forest and the network of vast railway systems. Let one imagine a visitor from another sphere looking upon America when only the red men roamed the forest, and again visiting the old yet new scenes, amid which he beholds the mighty cities, the canals, the denuded forests, the smiling fields, the wealth-pouring mines, the feats of engineering, and he may behold what the brain and heart of man have wrought.

“Masonry has had its share in the grand accom-

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plishments of industry. From the building of King Solomon's Temple to the laying of the corner stone of the latest Masonic Temple, Masons have been the master-builders of the world. In past ages great buildings were erected and vast industrial enterprises consummated exclusively by operative Masons. Always the world's builders have been largely of the Masonic Fraternity. The trowel that forms a society of brothers with the ties of affection is a symbol of a great truth. The invisible trowel of the Mason is the instrument by which the great industrial accomplishments have been effected.

"Civilization is also characterized by great political development. The tribe in time becomes a great and enlightened nation of millions of citizens. Masonry has always taught loyal and patriotic citizenship. Like the Master, Masonry has held to the law. 'Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's.' Masonic charges abound in inspiring injunctions to be true to one's country. But the Masonic institution has done more for political development. Freedom, equality, union are the eternal principles of God that constitute the foundation of a free people. These are also the great Masonic principles. Who can say that these principles living and increasing for centuries in the hearts of Masons have not been a potent force in the political evolutions of the race. The Free-Mason, meeting on the level of equality with his brother and united to him by a fraternal bond, has been the proto-

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type of the free citizen of the American republic. To Masonry should be credited a large share of the political progress of our race.

“A third element in civilization is social development. No great thing can be accomplished except by the union and co-operation of many individuals. Man lives not unto himself alone. He is ever a part of a social body. For his own weal man must realize his social self. The evolution of modern society is the greatest marvel of modern society, is the greatest marvel of modern times. Social ideas have long been the goal of our fraternity. Its essential spirit inspires that noble ‘emulation of who best can work and best agree,’ and its principle of life is the ‘cement of brotherly love and affection, which unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers.’ Masonry has been a mighty factor in social development.

“A fourth element in civilization is the increase of the ethical idea and of ethical life. Our conception of a fraternity is but a shadowing forth of the divine idea of the Christ of a universal and infinite brotherhood of man. To assist a needy brother, to guard his good name, to protect his rights, to live a life of service, are the fundamental laws of our institution. These are the laws of Christ. Through the Masonic institution as through other means God has been teaching men his laws of brotherly kindness and giving more of his life to men. God needs every

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institution founded upon brotherly love and good deeds. Masonry is a powerful factor in the ethical development of the race.

“Ah when shall all men's good
Be each man's rule, and universal peace
Lie like a shaft of light across the land,
And like a lane of beams athwart the sea,
Thro' all the circle of the golden year.”

“The fifth element in a progressive civilization is the religious. Religious sentiment is closely allied to the ethical. Christ taught that love of man is like to love of God. The goal of religious life as well as of ethical process is the image of God. Religion has been called the life of God in the soul of man. Masonry is not only a moral but also a religious institution. Belief in God and in the resurrection of life is the fundamental law of Masonry. Masonry has contributed abundantly to the religious development of the race. ‘Pure religion and undefiled is to visit the fatherless and the widow in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the worm.’ Every Mason knows his duty to the afflicted, the fatherless and the widow. Every Knighted Mason remembers his vow for innocence and virtue. All know the deep and hidden meaning of the lambskin, more honorable than any other insignium.

“If Masonry be charged with infidelity, let it be known that true Masons, with reverence and adoration, ascribe to the Almighty One the power and honor and glory by which the lives of Masons are



WREATHS PLACED AT THE CORNER-STONE BY THE SCHOOL CHILDREN
OF GUILDHALL AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

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ennobled and redeemed. It is God who makes true Masons. He is acknowledged the source of all light and life.

“When the story of higher civilization shall be told, inwreathed in every part will be found the annals of Masonry; and the essential element in the whole will be that fundamental principle of industrial, political, social, ethical, and religious life, and that vital essence of Masonic life, which is *fraternity*

“In conclusion, sincere and signal congratulations are presented in pleasure to the people of Guildhall for the great gift that is to be conferred upon them by her loyal and warm-hearted son, Col. E. C. Benton, for the coming establishment of two beneficent institutions; and especially for the generous life and active goodwill, which was nourished in that sterling Christian home of the old and honored Benton homestead, and which loyally and freely, in beautiful requital, gives its affection, its wise thought, its benevolent plans, and its generous deeds to its boyhood home. In truth, like the word of the Lord, the life that Guildhall has sent forth has not returned unto it void. This building, unique and beautiful as it is to be, has an individuality all its own. Benton Lodge will hold an unique and distinctive position among her sister lodges. The Benton Public Library, too, will become a characteristic and noteworthy institution. But the most charming, the most beautiful reality — the most touching and inspiring future — of the event, which

the Grand Lodge has consecrated, is the donor's personality and his simple and true and loving loyalty to the friends of his father and the companions of his boyhood, and to their children.

"When Heaven once spake to Earth, its message, borne on the wings of celestial song, was: 'Glory to God in the highest; peace and goodwill to men.' Since that divine event goodwill has been increasing, and the peace of God has grown in human hearts. This has become an age of benevolence. Such deeds as this of the founder increases our faith in God and man, makes life sweeter, increases the power of good in life, and fulfils God's highest law of service. And may our honored and beloved brother hear, in the silence of his soul, the echoing of those priceless words as a comfort and inspiration evermore: 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethern, ye have done it unto me.'"

There was not a moment's inattention during the delivery of the address, which displayed good literary taste, was rich in facts and illustrations, and strikingly apropos to the occasion. At its conclusion most enthusiastic applause greeted the speaker. The benediction concluded the outdoor exercises, and the brethren marched back to the court house, the Grand Lodge was closed, and all adjourned to the Grange Hall for dinner. The ladies of Guildhall served in fine style an inviting and sumptuous dinner, that reflected great credit on all concerned in its preparation.

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The compliments bestowed were as sincere as they were hearty. Over three hundred and fifty were served, and ample provision had been made to entertain twice that number, if necessary. Well done, good ladies of Guildhall!

All attending this memorable event will most heartily endorse the subjoined sentiment, received by Col. Benton during the exercises, sent by James Nichols Frye, of Boston, formerly of Concord:—

“Gratitude and thanks for your generous gift to Guildhall. God bless you and our native country!”

Col. Benton also received many letters from all parts of New England, from prominent members of the fraternity, including the Grand Masters of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, expressing regret at inability to be present.

EDITORIAL.

COL. BENTON'S GIFT TO GUILDHALL.

The sentiments awakened by the gift to Guildhall of a Public Library and Masonic Building are primarily those which suggest the devotion of the boy to the place of his nativity, his love of his birthplace, kindred, friends, community, and home; and a mind with large inhabitiveness will with zest and appetite absorb and regale itself with those near and dear memories and associations. But there is also a rich vein of thought connected with that gift awakened by the gavel presented to Col. Benton and the new

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lodge which runs back to the midnight light, the historic church, the bold and dashing ride and rider, and connects us in thought with every noble heart that panted for liberty in the beginning. It is a vein of thought running direct from every participant in this pleasant event to those grand old colonial hearts, whose pulsations the country will never cease to feel. And so the bounteous Colonel, while he is fastening the friends of his childhood and youth to himself with hooks of steel, is binding every grateful heart more firmly to its home, church and country.

Guildball, Vermont.

VISITING BRETHREN AT LAYING OF CORNER STONE.

- M. W. W. Scott Nay, Underhill, *Grand Master*.
M. W. Delos M. Bacon, St. Johnsbury Centre, as
Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Charles R. Montague, Woodstock, *Grand*
Senior Warden.
R. W. Henry S. Root, Newport, as *Grand Junior*
Warden.
R. W. Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, *Grand*
Secretary.
W. Albert R. Bush, North Orwell, *Grand Senior*
Deacon.
W. Eugene E. Smith, Post Mills, *Grand Junior*
Deacon.
W. Walter E. Ranger, Johnson, *Grand Lecturer*.
W. Daniel S. Danforth, St. Albans, as *Grand Marshal*.
W. Albert Killam, Burlington, *Grand Steward*.
W. Henry D. Bryant, Morrisville, *Grand Tyler*.
R. W. William M. Rich, West Concord, *District*
Deputy Grand Master for the Twelfth Masonic
District.
W. H. Bishop, Island Pond, No. 44, Island Pond, Vt.
George Chapman, Moose River, No. 82, West
Concord, Vt.
A. D. Forsaith, Moose River, No. 82, West Concord, Vt.
W. C. Pratt, " " " " " " "
C. A. Crowell, " " " " " " "
C. A. Tilton, " " " " " " "

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W. R. Bell, Moose River, No. 82, West Concord, Vt.						
F. D. Hale,	"	"	"	"	Lunenburg, Vt.	
Julian Bell,	"	"	"	"	"	"
F. A. Turner, Memphremagog, No. 65, Lunenburg, Vt.						
M. D. Richardson, North Star, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.						
Carl F. Holton,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Fred Holton,	"	"	"	"	"	"
H. A. Moore,	"	"	"	"	"	"
J. S. Brackett,	"	"	"	"	"	"
F. W. Grant,	"	"	"	"	"	"
C. E. Willoughby,	"	"	"	"	"	"
G. E. Lane,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Fred S. Linscott,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thomas. S. Ellis,	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. M. Heath,	"	"	"	"	"	"
H. C. Forbush,	"	"	"	"	"	"
C. L. Dolloff,	"	"	"	"	"	"
E. A. Fugerson,	"	"	"	"	"	"
John A. Mountain,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Frank E. Richey,	"	"	"	"	"	"
E. W. Wyman,	"	"	"	"	"	"
J. S. Woodward,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Wayne Cobleigh,	"	"	"	"	"	"
John W. Crawshaw,	"	"	"	"	"	"
Nelson Sparks,	"	"	"	"	"	"
George E. Stevens,	"	"	"	"	"	"
C. E. Munroe,	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. W. Ross, Evening Star, No. 37, Colebrook, N. H.						
W. W. Pike, Gorham, No. 73, Gorham, N. H.						

Guildhall, Vermont.

COPY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE M. W. GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT AT A SPECIAL COMMUNICATION HELD AT GUILDHALL, VT., SEPTEMBER 27th.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Vermont convened in the State House at Guildhall, Vt., on Thursday, September 27th, at 10.30 A. M., preparatory to laying the corner stone of the new Library and Masonic Building of that town.

PRESENT.

M. W. W. Scott Nay, Underhill, *Grand Master.*

M. W. Delos M. Bacon, St. Johnsbury Centre, as
Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Charles R. Montague, Woodstock, *Grand
Senior Warden.*

R. W. Henry S. Root, Newport, as *Grand Junior
Warden.*

R. W. Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, *Grand
Secretary.*

W. Albert R. Bush, North Orwell, *Grand Senior
Deacon.*

W. Eugene E. Smith, Post Mills, *Grand Junior
Deacon.*

W. Walter E. Ranger, Johnson, *Grand Lecturer.*

W. Ezra S. Freeman, Guildhall, as *Grand Chaplain.*

W. Daniel S. Danforth, St. Albans, as *Grand Marshal.*

W. Albert Killam, Burlington, *Grand Steward.*

W. Henry D. Bryant, Morrisville, *Grand Tyler.*

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R. W. William M. Rich, West Concord, *District Deputy Grand Master for the Twelfth Masonic District.*

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had been convened for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the new Library and Masonic Building which had been presented to the town by Col. E. C. Benton, a former townsman. The Grand Master placed the M. W. Grand Lodge in charge of the Grand Marshal, who formed the procession and proceeded, under the escort of a large number of the Brethren from the Lodges of the District, and from Lodges at Lancaster and elsewhere in New Hampshire, to a platform erected at the place where the corner stone was to be laid, when the same was laid in accordance with the ancient ceremonies of the Order. At the conclusion of this ceremony the Grand Lecturer, Walter E. Ranger, delivered a highly eloquent and instructive address upon the theme of "The Library as a Factor in Education and Masonry as a Factor in Civilization," at the close of which the procession was re-formed and returned to the place of meeting, and was closed in ample form. After the exercises the Grand Lodge and visiting Brethren were invited to partake of a banquet given by the ladies of the village, where the inner wants of the man were bountifully supplied.

A true copy of the records.

WARREN G. REYNOLDS, *Grand Secretary.*



BRO. SAMUEL THOMAS ROGERS.

Guildball, Vermont.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

The second Communication was held in Grange Hall, October 18, 1900, when the Committee on By-Laws reported, and they were adopted.

A committee consisting of Bro. F. N. Piper and Bro. A. W. Scott was appointed to draft resolutions of thanks to Simon W. Robinson Lodge of Massachusetts for gavel presented to this Lodge.

Letter from Island Pond Lodge, No. 44, extending fraternal greetings, read by Secretary.

On November 15, 1900, the third Communication, Samuel Thomas Rogers, father-in-law of Worshipful Master, was the first candidate to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree in this Lodge, together with Rufus K. Poole and Fred L. Follansby, the latter two being life-long residents of the town, and descendants of two of our oldest and most influential families.

Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master William M. Rich, of West Concord, who only a few months ago was comparatively unknown among us, but who, by his able, generous and courteous treatment of our interests, has become one whom we have all, from the youngest Entered Apprentice to the Worshipful Master, learned to love and respect, paid us his first official visit.

The fourth Communication, December 20, 1900, was the last to assemble in Grange Hall. The Second Degree was conferred on several candidates.

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The following resolution, presented by S. W. Bro. F. N. Piper, adopted by unanimous vote of the Lodge, viz. : —

Resolved, that the thanks of Benton Lodge, A. F. and A. M., are hereby tendered to Simon W. Robinson Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of Lexington, Massachusetts, for the "Historic Gavel" presented to Worshipful Master Bro. Everett C. Benton, September 27th, 1900.

In future years may all who shall grasp its sacred handle feel the same pulsations of true patriotism that was exhibited on that memorable nineteenth of April, 1775.

Trusting that the true spirit of Masonic Brotherhood shall exist among the brethren of the Green Mountain Hills and extend true fraternal greetings to those of the Old Bay State, cherishing with love and esteem the memory of Simon W. Robinson Lodge, where our beloved and Worshipful Master, Bro. Everett C. Benton, first saw the "Light," as it appeared to him in the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Simon W. Robinson Lodge and the same entered upon the Journal in the records of the Lodge.

Committee,

FRANK N. PIPER, S. W.
ALBERT W. SCOTT, S. D.

Guildhall, Vermont.

The fifth Communication, January 17, 1901, was one that will long be remembered by all who attended, as it was the first to be held in the new hall, then only partly completed, and also the first meeting in the new century. A specially pleasing occasion for our Worshipful Master, for his brother, Jay B. Benton, was the first candidate to seek admission in the new hall; he was followed by Mr. Albert M. Drew, son of our dear old Brother who was so instrumental in forming the Lodge, the Junior Warden, and also Mr. Frank Hall, so many years one of our leading and influential citizens. The Second Degree was also conferred on several candidates.

The entire membership was present and recorded at this Communication.

The next meeting, the sixth, held February 21, 1901, was devoted largely to preparatory work.

On March 20th, 1901, the seventh Communication, —being the first special,—the Third Degree was conferred by the Lodge, and the following were raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason: —

Bro. Samuel Thomas Rogers,

“ Rufus K. Poole,

“ Fred L. Follansby,

“ Frank Hall,

“ Richard Beattie,

“ Samuel P. McLeod.

Bro. Edgar R. Champlin, Mayor of Cambridge,

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Mass., honored the Lodge by a special trip to inspect the new hall, in company with the Worshipful Master, and delivered the charge to the candidates. The meeting was also honored by having as guests Rt. Wor. Bro. William M. Rich, Wor. Bro. L. I. Bishop and Hon. F. D. Hale, as well as many Past Masters and other Brothers.

The eighth meeting, the next evening, being the stated Communication, the First Degree was the work for the evening.

The following resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote of the Lodge:—

Resolved, that Benton Lodge, F. and A. M., hereby express to—

Gustavus G. Holt,
William R. Gray,
Walter B. Henderson,
Lewis A. Wallon,
George M. Rogers, and
Charles L. Sale,

the sincere thanks and the due appreciation of this Lodge of their kindness in presenting to us the beautiful and sacred volume; as it shall rest upon the altar in all future time, may the sacred inspirations as inspired in past ages be imparted to the members of Benton Lodge, causing feelings of gratitude, honor, and respect, and the true spirit of reciprocal love and esteem go out towards these individuals who have in

Guildhall, Vermont.

mind the future success and prosperity of this Lodge, "The Office Associates" of our respected and most esteemed Worshipful Master, Everett C. Benton.

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each of the above-mentioned individuals, and the same be entered upon the records of the Lodge.

Committee,

F. N. PIPER, S. W.

AUGUSTUS DREW, J. W.

A. W. SCOTT, S. D.

TO JONES BROTHERS,

53-55 KILBY STREET,

BOSTON, MASS.

Resolved, that the sincere thanks of Benton Lodge, F. and A. M., are hereby tendered to Jones Brothers, 53-55 Kilby Street, Boston, Mass., for the presentation to this Lodge of the "Ashlars." As the Entered Apprentice is installed as to emblematical use, may it recall to mind the generosity and interest thus manifested by the donors.

Further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Jones Brothers, and the same spread upon the records of the Lodge.

Committee,

F. N. PIPER, S. W.

AUGUSTUS DREW, J. W.

A. W. SCOTT, S. D.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

The April Communication was held on the 18th, and a report was prepared for the Grand Lodge.

To show the transactions in full the report of the Finance Committee will be given, which embraces the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, BENTON LODGE,
U. D., A. F. AND A. M.

GUILDHALL, VT., April 18, A. D. 1901, A. L. 5901.

To the Members of Benton Lodge, U. D., A. F. and A. M.

BRETHREN : —

Your Finance Committee report as follows : —

The first meeting of this Lodge was held on the 26th day of September, 1900, in Grange Hall, Guildhall Village, pursuant to a call issued by Everett C. Benton, who had authority from Most Worshipful W. Scott Nay, Grand Master of Masons, who had granted a dispensation for eleven Master Masons to hold meetings as per said letter of dispensation.

Applications have been received for the degrees from seventeen candidates and for membership in the Lodge. The application for membership cannot be acted upon until charter is granted.

The Entered Apprentice Degree has been conferred on thirteen candidates.

The Fellow Craft Degree has been conferred on thirteen candidates, and the Master Mason Degree on six candidates.

Guildhall, Vermont.

The Lodge has received —

From 17 applicants at \$5 each	\$85.00
“ 13 Entered Apprentices, at \$5 each	65.00
“ 8 Fellow Craft, at \$5 each	40.00
“ 6 Master Masons, at \$10.	60.00

Other receipts are as follows : —

1 Hand Book	1.00
	<hr/>
	\$251.00

EXPENSES.

Paid to the Trustees of the Per-	
manent Fund, as per By-Laws,	
on 6 Master Masons	\$30.00
Paid Grand Lodge per capita and	
Grand Lodge tax on 11 mem-	
bers, at 50 cents each	5.50
Paid Grand Lodge \$3 each on 13	
Entered Apprentices	39.00
Paid for 12 Aprons	7.00
Paid for 5 Rituals	5.00
Paid for Fuel	2.25
	<hr/>
	88.75
Leaving a balance in the hands of	
the Treasurer of	<hr/>
	\$162.25

Your Finance Committee recommends that inasmuch as there will be quite a large income accruing to the

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Lodge in the next few months, that this balance be transferred to the Permanent Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

E. C. BENTON,

F. N. PIPER,

AUGUSTUS DREW,

Finance Committee.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PERMANENT FUND,
BENTON LODGE, U. D., A. F. AND A. M.

GUILDHALL, VT., April 18, A. D. 1901, A. L. 5901.

To the Members of Benton Lodge, U. D., A. F. and A. M.

BRETHREN : —

The Trustees of the Permanent Fund beg leave to report as follows : —

They have received from the Treasurer the sum of \$30, being \$5 each on six Master Masons, and the Trustees respectfully recommend that the Lodge vote giving them instructions relative to depositing the same, together with such future sums as the Lodge may in its wisdom entrust to the care of the Trustees, in some suitable banking institution, or recommend some other desirable investment for this fund, that it may be placed on interest.

Respectfully submitted,

E. C. BENTON,

S. M. MATTHEWS,

GEO. F. MARTIN,

Trustees of the Permanent Fund.



BRO. JAY BAYARD BENTON.

Guildhall, Vermont.

The Lodge voted that the Trustees deposit the Permanent Fund in some safe banking institution, and the Passumpsic Savings Bank, of St. Johnsbury, was accepted as preferable by the members present. Also voted that the balance in Treasurer's hands, viz., \$162.25, be turned over to the Trustees.

The Lodge was honored by the presence of Bro. W. H. Bishop, of Island Pond, and Wor. Bro. H. B. Carpenter, of Lancaster, N. H., who addressed the meeting.

April 22, 1901, the Trustees of the Permanent Fund deposited with the Passumpsic Savings Bank \$192.25.

At the stated Communication on May 16, \$100 more were placed in the Permanent Fund.

Bro. Jay Bayard Benton,
" Samuel Slade Benton,
" Elisha Elias Lapelle,
" Frank Willard Ford,
" Guy Hayes,
" Harley S. Hall,

were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, as were also

Bro. Elmer Ellsworth Flanders,
" Fred Ober Wood,

at a special Communication held the next day, May 17.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

*GRAND LODGE MEETING, BURLINGTON,
VT., JUNE 12th and 13th, 1901.*

The meeting was attended by Wor. Bro. Everett C. Benton, who returned the Letter of Dispensation and Transcript of Proceedings had under its authority, and on behalf of the Brothers asked that Charter be granted. We quote such of the Grand Lodge proceedings as relates to our Lodge.

FROM GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

OFFICIAL ACTS.

On September 19th, 1900, an application was received from eleven Master Masons, residents of Guildhall, and other places, who were lawfully dimitted, asking that letters of dispensation be granted them for the formation of a new lodge in Guildhall, to be known as Benton Lodge. The application was properly endorsed by Rt. Wor. Bro. Rich, District Deputy Grand Master, with certificate of approval of the two nearest lodges, and it named Bro. E. C. Benton as its Worshipful Master, Bro. Frank N. Piper as Senior Warden, and Bro. Augustus Drew as Junior Warden. Being assured that the interests of the Fraternity would be promoted thereby, I forwarded letters as desired. The Lodge starts off under the most favorable auspices, and flattering reports are received respecting its success.

In conformity with our usual custom, the Lodge at

Guildhall, Vermont.

this time desires to be recognized, and received into full communion.

The dispensation, and all papers required, are in the hands of the Grand Secretary, which will be referred to the proper committee, for such action as may be deemed best.

LAYING CORNER STONES.

On September 27th, 1900, assisted by several members of the Grand Lodge, I laid the corner stone of the Public Library and Masons Building at Guildhall. This beautiful village, situated so pleasantly on the banks of the Connecticut River, is not only fortunate in its location, but more than that in having a devoted absent son, whose remembrance of childhood and youthful days, and whose filial affection, prompts to noble and charitable deeds.

Col. E. C. Benton, of Boston, Mass., whose birth-place was Guildhall, has manifested a most charitable and commendable spirit of loyalty to his native town by presenting to it a modern Library Building and Library, which will prove a lasting monument to his memory, and to the memory of his ancestors whom he has thus honored. Bro. Benton's interest and thoughtfulness for his brethren of the mystic tie caused him to provide also a beautiful and convenient hall in the building, which, at his own expense, has been elaborately furnished with the necessary paraphernalia for Masonic purposes. At his invitation

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

the corner stone was laid on Wednesday of date mentioned. The day was perfect, and the program for the interesting occasion was successfully carried out. The public, in large numbers, manifested their interest and gratefulness by providing a sumptuous banquet, and by close attention to all the exercises. The school children proved their affection for him, and their appreciation of him who is directly their benefactor, by decorating and surrounding the stone with beautiful flowers. Wor. Bro: Walter E. Ranger, Grand Lecturer, delivered a scholarly and appropriate address.

COMMITTEE ON CHARTERS.

Rt. Wor. A. Augustine Butterfield of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters presented the following report and on motion it was accepted and adopted :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS ON BENTON LODGE, U. D.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont now in session :

Your Committee on Dispensations and Charters to which was referred the petition of Everett C. Benton and others for a new Lodge, to be known as Benton Lodge, to be located at Guildhall, in the County of Essex, begs leave to report :—

That after carefully examining all the circumstances and papers relating thereto, would recommend that a charter be granted to the petitioning brethren to form

Guildhall, Vermont.

a Lodge at Guildhall, in the County of Essex, to be known as Benton Lodge, No. 88. We recommend a careful revision of their By-Laws and a submission of the same to the incoming Grand Master for approval. We recommend that mileage be paid to the representatives of this Lodge the same as though previously chartered. We also recommend that this Lodge form a part of District No. 12 until the further action of the Grand Lodge.

Perhaps we may be pardoned by the brethren of the Grand Lodge if we open the window of our hearts just enough that you may catch one glimpse of the pride and satisfaction that rests there because a son of Vermont, remembering the home of his fathers, is willing to spend something of his means to upbuild, beautify and improve his native State.

Fraternally submitted,

OZRO MEACHAM,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
EUGENE S. WESTON,		
A. AUGUSTINE BUTTERFIELD,		

M. W. Ozro Meacham presented the following resolution, and on motion the same was accepted and referred to a special committee to report at the next Annual Communication.

Resolved, that article 5 of the By-Laws be amended so as to read as follows: Each county in this State shall form one Masonic District, and the lodges in Essex County shall be known as District No. 14.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

November 15th, 1900, I visited Benton Lodge, U. D. The First Degree was worked upon three candidates in a manner which showed that the Master and other officers were greatly in earnest with the work which they had taken in hand for the first time. Bro. Benton, Worshipful Master of this Lodge, is doing much in the interest of Masonry in Vermont. He is spending a large amount of time and money to build up a lasting monument for the Fraternity, and especially to the brothers of Essex County.

March 20th, 1901, I again visited Benton Lodge, by request of Bro. Benton. There were about sixty brothers from Lancaster, Groveton, Lunenburg and West Concord present. The Master Mason Degree was conferred upon six worthy brothers. Benton Lodge is now located in its new hall, which is nearly completed, and is one of the best arranged halls in the District.

WILLIAM M. RICH,

D. D. G. M., Twelfth Masonic District.

WEST CONCORD, VT., May 10, 1901.

The first regular Communication under the charter was held June 27th. The By-Laws as approved by the Grand Master were adopted.

Hon. Robert Chase was elected to membership, he presenting his dimit from Grecian Lodge, of Lawrence, Mass.

Guildhall, Vermont.

DEDICATION.

July 9, 1901, a special Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge was held at the Court House, for the purpose of dedicating our Masonic Hall, and a special meeting of our Lodge was called for that day.

We again take the liberty to give account of these exercises as they were so ably recorded in the Essex County Herald.

GUILDHALL'S RED LETTER DAYS.

DEDICATION OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MASONIC BUILDING.

THE GIFT OF COL. BENTON.

Members of the Masonic Fraternity gathered in plentiful numbers at Guildhall, Tuesday, July 9, to attend the presentation and dedicatory exercises of the new Masonic Hall, the generous gift of Col. E. C. Benton, a native of Guildhall, now residing at Belmont, Mass. The historic town had put on its best attire, in fact it was a veritable "white village," and every house was more or less decorated in honor of the occasion. Representatives from forty-four lodges were present. Shortly after noon the Grand Officers of Massachusetts and New Hampshire and other distinguished visitors were met as they entered Vermont from New Hampshire by Benton Lodge, Island Pond Lodge and Moose River Lodge, these three lodges acting as escort to the visitors. Headed by the

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

American Waltham Watch Factory Band (Fifth Regiment Band, M. V. M.), all marched to the Court House, where the Grand Lodge of Vermont had assembled, when the latter joined the procession and after marching through the village proceeded to the hall to be dedicated. There were two hundred and eight Masons in the procession. Benton Lodge received with the grand honors the Grand Lodge of Vermont. The officers of Benton Lodge surrendered their chairs to the officers of the Grand Lodge, and these in turn received with grand honors the representatives of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Then followed the exercises of constituting Benton Lodge and of consecration agreeably to ancient form and usage. The new hall was formally presented by the Worshipful Master of Benton Lodge, E. C. Benton, to the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and then the Grand Architect surrendered the implements committed to his care, the square, level and plumb, to the Grand Master, who complimented the architect on the skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in him, and announced that the hall in its appointments throughout met with the entire approbation of the Grand Lodge. Next came the dedicatory prayer, after which the Grand Officers formed in procession, and having reached the East the Grand Master poured corn upon the Lodge, saying: "In the name of the great Jehovah, to whom be all honor and glory, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to Freemasonry," this



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND COURT HOUSE.

GUILDHALL, VT.

Guildhall, Vermont.

act being followed by the grand honors. A second procession was made around the Lodge, when the Grand Master sprinkled wine upon the Lodge, saying, "In the name of the Holy Saints John, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to Virtue," and the grand honors were twice repeated. Again was a procession made around the Lodge, and oil was sprinkled by the Grand Master, who said, "In the name of the whole Fraternity, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to Universal Benevolence," and the grand honors were thrice repeated. Following the invocation, Grand Master Montague made a brief congratulatory address to the members of Benton Lodge, the charter was given into the care of Wor. Bro. Benton, the benediction was pronounced by the Grand Chaplain, whereupon the Grand Lodge retired and Benton Lodge was closed in form.

The visitors next proceeded to Grange Hall, where a tempting and appetizing dinner was served in excellent style by the ladies of Guildhall and towns in the immediate vicinity, — Mrs. Kate D. Hannaford, Chairman, — upon which many compliments were bestowed (both on the dinner and on the ladies), and they were well deserved. As the literary exercises did not occur until three o'clock the intervening time was spent in fraternal greetings and in listening to the sweet and delightful strains of the band. The music by the American Waltham Watch Factory Band was a great treat, and very much enjoyed.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

AFTERNOON EXERCISES.

Promptly at three o'clock Col. Benton, as master of ceremonies in the Congregational Church, called the assemblage to order. The church was filled to its fullest capacity of sitting and standing room. Potted plants and fragrant flowers gave their inspiration of beauty. The speakers and other noted Masons and citizens filled the platform. It was indeed a proud day for Col. Benton, and his heart must have been filled with the joy of a great satisfaction as so many of his friends and brothers gathered to help him enjoy it all. He presided with great dignity and grace and expressed in his bearing a consciousness of the importance of the occasion to him and all. In pleasing words and apt sentences he introduced the various speakers, upon whose every word the audience hung with that intense interest which practically said this splendid occasion and opportunity will never be mine to enjoy again. We will try to record some of the many good things said. The exercises were opened by a selection from the band, followed by prayer. The first speaker was M. W. Charles R. Montague, Grand Master of Vermont.

“Worshipful Sir, Brethren and Friends: I feel it a great honor, as well as pleasure, as Grand Master of the ten thousand Masons of the State of Vermont and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of this jurisdiction, to be present and take part in the

Guildhall, Vermont.

solemn ceremonies of this auspicious occasion, and to welcome within our borders the distinguished representatives of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Of the former we may almost say she is our Mother Grand Lodge, as the first Masonic Lodge in Vermont was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1781, and the second by the same Grand Lodge in 1785.

Grand
Master's
Address.

“Freemasonry meant much for those faithful, self-sacrificing brethren of the early days. It means much to the faithful Mason of to-day, but we can hardly realize, as we sit in our comfortable, even luxurious lodge rooms in these peaceful times, that our Masonic forefathers suffered and endured for their beloved institution during the troublous times when fanatical persecution by anti-Masons made it almost unsafe to life and liberty to be known as a Mason. The most ridiculous and improbable stories were told and believed of the forms and ceremonies practised, the laws and rules observed and the obligations assumed by Masons, and the intolerance of anti-Masonry pervaded the town, the courts, the church and the home circle. We have lived to see truth rise triumphant over superstition, and to-day, the wisest, best and most influential men of all classes, in nearly every country on the face of the globe, are supporters of Masonry and members of the Fraternity.

“There is still, and very likely there always will be, some slight opposition to Masonry in every community

because it is a secret society, and in the minds of some anything that is secret must necessarily be bad. My friends, do you not have secrets in your own families? Do you spread broadcast among your neighbors and the community all your family affairs? There are secrets in your church management, in the conduct of your town affairs, in the councils of the State and of the nation. Masonry makes no secret of its principles, its beliefs, or the great rules of life and conduct by which its votaries are governed. Its only secrets are its ceremonies, its modes of recognition, and what we may concisely term its 'family affairs.' No man can become a Mason who does not first of all declare his belief in one ever-living and true God, and who does not upon his honor affirm that he is influenced by no mercenary motives, but only by a sincere desire to do good to his fellow men. Can there be anything intrinsically bad in a society which requires such motives and beliefs of its candidates, and upon whose altar is always found the Holy Bible, the Great Light of Revelation and Truth, and which charges its candidates that within that sacred book is found all rules necessary for his future life and conduct? A good Mason *must* be a good man, a good citizen, a good neighbor, a good husband, father and brother.

"Brethren, it is your duty always to show to your neighbors and to the world what is the meaning of a Masonic life, and convince them that to be a Mason

Guildball, Vermont.

is something more than the wearing of a Masonic charm or pin, but that the true Mason is one to whom the burdened heart may pour out its sorrow, to whom distress may prefer its suit, whose hand is guided by justice and whose heart is expanded by benevolence. Practice toward all that charity which seeks to find only the good in a brother and concedes to him the same right to his opinions and motives as you claim for your own.

“And now a word to the members of this new Lodge which has to-day been constituted. You now have, in addition to your duties as individual Masons, special duties which you owe to your Lodge. Benton Lodge, No. 88, may truly be said to have been born with the traditional silver spoon. Your esteemed friend and brother has built for you a home. He has placed at your disposal a beautiful lodge room, complete in all its appointments, and placed in your hands the working tools of your profession. It remains for you, now, to prove whether his action shall result in good or ill. You must not expect he will do your work for you ; you must work out your own salvation by your own endeavors. The business of the Lodge is in your own hands. Let it be conducted on business principles, ever remembering ‘how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.’ It is natural for you to wish to increase your membership, but in so doing be careful that you build *up* and not *down*, and that the beauty of your temple be

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

not marred by an ill shaped stone, nor its strength endangered by one in every way unfit for a place within its walls. Guard well the outer door, that the 'honor, glory and reputation of the Institution may be firmly established, and the world at large convinced of its good effects.' "

A. A. Folsom, Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, was the next speaker, and he said that he lacked words to express his appreciation of Col. Benton's magnificent gift to the home of his childhood. It bespoke the qualities of the man. Our purpose here was to join him in the satisfying thoughts and impulses of the hour. Masonry is an organization for good.

G. J. W. Ira A. Chase of New Hampshire said : —

"This gathering to-day is a pleasant and important occasion for this historic town. To the temples of justice and religion has now been added that of learning and fraternal brotherhood, the benefits of which will be felt for many years. The influence of the order is uplifting to a better manhood and progression to a higher idea of citizenship. Your lodge room, in its surroundings and its furnishings, is hardly surpassed for beauty in New England. This which Col. Benton has done is a grand deed, nobly conceived and carried out."

Hon. Henry O. Kent, 33°, of Lancaster, then in an able and pleasing manner delivered the following address : —

Guildhall, Vermont.

“Worshipful Master, Brethren and Friends: Standing in this presence I realize the vital power and pervasive spirit of Freemasonry, and that we of ancient North Star Lodge, who join with you on this gracious occasion, are in the immediate vicinage of the original location of our own body, where the names and traditions of our early members linger in the odor of fraternal sanctity and the good repute that attaches to useful lives.

Address
of
Ill. Bro.
Henry O.
Kent, 33°

“Upon the illuminated window at my right, in this restored and venerable edifice, is the name of one of these faithful craftsmen, long entered into rest—Judge Daniel Dana, of this town of Guildhall, seventh initiate of North Star Lodge in 1798, father of the brilliant Charles A. Dana of the New York Sun, Assistant Secretary of War in Lincoln’s administration. To his name, thus happily conspicuous, may be added from your own community the names of Mills de Forest, Samuel Phelps, Azariah Webb, Samuel Howe, Spencer Clark, Elisha Cushman (ancestor of the famous tragedienne, Charlotte Cushman), Joshua Hopkinson, and other pioneers and fathers of a century ago.

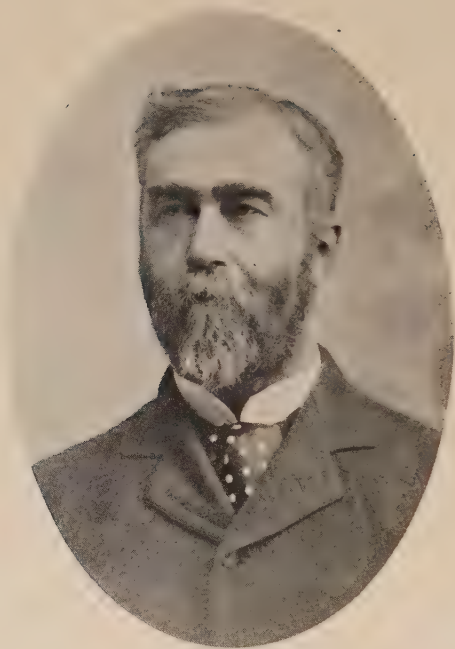
“It is an interesting fact that we are within our ancient jurisdiction. North Star Lodge was established in 1797 across the Connecticut in Northumberland, within a stone’s throw, almost, of the spot where stands the graceful edifice we are assembled to dedicate. Then the town of its location was more

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

prominent in business, more prolific of active men, than its adjoining southern neighbor, Lancaster, nor was it until 1800 that the Lodge was removed to the growing and prosperous capital of the North Country, where for more than a century it has so signally prospered, exerting a wide and benign influence in the physical and intellectual development of the region. So we of North Star welcome into the fold of Masonry this new Lodge, for the prosperity of which we entertain glad and confident anticipations, by reason of the associations and memories of our own past.

“The occasion is one of great significance, and altogether commendable. We join in the dedication of a Masonic Temple and Public Library erected by our Brother, a free gift to his native town, a tribute to the memory of his father, for many years a notable and honored citizen. There could be no finer appreciation of the fitness of things than is exhibited in this act, no more touching filial tribute bestowed to the memory of a worthy sire, than the building of this Temple, for the intelligent recreation and instruction of all the people of the town he loved and for exemplification of the work of the ancient craft.

“Our Brother’s success marks the possibilities of American manhood, and illustrates what may be accomplished, under God, by the clear head and resolute hand of the well nurtured New England boy. Our friend went out from his boyhood’s home to meet



M. W. CHARLES R. MONTAGUE,
Past Grand Master of Masons of Vermont.

GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons



IN THE STATE

OF

Vermont,

GREETING.

Whereas, our worthy Brethren in



Everett C Benton, Frank H Piper, Augustus Drew, Stephen M Mathews, Albert W Scott, John W Downer, Royal H Philbrick, George F Martin, Ezra S Freeman, Alfred L Hall, Sidney J Mathews.

Residing at, and in the vicinity of **GUILDHALL** in this State, have by their Petition requested that they may be constituted a **REGULAR LODGE OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS**, to meet in the said town of **GUILDHALL** under the name of

Benton Lodge,

and have nominated their **FIRST MASTER** and **WARDENS**, as hereinafter named and appointed, and it having appeared that it will be for the promotion of the **ROYAL ART**, it hath been our pleasure to grant the prayer of said **PETITION**, and therefore **Know Ye**, that we, by virtue of the power vested in us, by the **Grand Constitution**, and reposing special confidence in the **PRUDENCE, FIDELITY** and **SKILL IN MASONRY** of our worthy Brethren aforesaid, to wit, **Everett C Benton, Frank H Piper, Augustus Drew, Stephen M Mathews, Albert W Scott, John W Downer, Royal H Philbrick, George F Martin, Ezra S Freeman, Alfred L Hall, Sidney J Mathews**, have constituted and by these **PRESENTS** do constitute and appoint them and their successors, a **regular Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons**, by the name, style, title and designation of **BENTON LODGE**, hereby fully empowering our said constituted Brethren to assemble as **Masons** in the said town of **GUILDHALL** and there to receive and enter **Apprentices**, pass **Fellow Crafts** and raise to the **Sublime Degree** of **Master Mason** all such persons as they shall judge worthy and well qualified upon their payment of such reasonable compensation as shall be agreed upon by said Lodge conformably to the laws of the **Grand Lodge**. To make choice of **Master, Wardens** and other office bearers, annually or otherwise, as they shall see fit; to receive and collect funds for the relief of poor and decayed Brethren, their widows and orphan children and in general, to do and transact all matters and things proper to a **Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons**, conformably to the ordinances of the **Grand Lodge**, and agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of **Masons**.

And we do hereby require our said constituted Brethren to attend the **Grand Lodge** by their **Master** and **Wardens** for the time being or their places at the stated annual meetings and at such other **Grand Communications**, as shall be by proper authority appointed and also to keep a fair and regular **Record** of all the proceedings of said Lodge proper to be written and lay the same before said Lodge when and so often as they are required. Duty to pay such dues and dues for the benefit of the **Grand Lodge** as shall from time to time be constitutionally demanded. And we do hereby declare the preceding of said Lodge to be number **EIGHT EIGHT** in the **Grand Communication**.

And we do by these **PRESENTS**, appoint our truly and well beloved brother **EVERETT C BENTON** the first **Master**, and our worthy brother **FRANK H PIPER** the first **Senior Warden**, and our worthy brother **AUGUSTUS DREW**, the first **Junior Warden** of said Lodge. This **Charter** to continue in force until revoked by authority of the **Grand Lodge**.

Witness, the most Worshipful **C. R. MONTAGUE Esquire**, **Grand Master** and our other **Grand Officers**, under the seal of this **Grand Lodge** at the city of Burlington the thirteenth day of June Anno Lucis Two thousand Two hundred and one.

Charles A. Montague - Grand Master
C. R. Montague - Deputy Grand Master
Wm. J. Montague - Grand Senior Warden
J. A. Montague - Grand Junior Warden
J. A. Montague - Grand Treasurer
By whom Deposition taken



Wm. J. Montague - Grand Secretary

COPY OF CHARTER.

Guildhall, Vermont.

and conquer fortune. It was the arduous trial that develops character that he essayed. For a time he met varying experience, ever surmounting obstacles, until the reward always incident to intelligent, honest endeavor came to him.

“‘The years had been many and changeful
Since Conal went afar
From the peaceful land of Ierne
To the stormy fields of war.’

“ But he had done his duty well, and he came back to the town of his nativity, — of his early hopes and aspirations, — bearing to the friends of his childhood the graceful token he presents to-day. To him be honor and kindly regard.

“ The history of North Star Lodge at Lancaster, celebrating its centennial four years ago, with its seven children and two grandchildren around its board, is the history of the region — embracing the valley on either side of the river of New England — from Grafton County to the Canadas. While it is true that the character of a section of country develops its mentality, the converse of the proposition is alike true — that the personality of the founders shapes the purpose and lives of those who succeed them. Time nor memory will admit the roll-call of the century that has past, but it is wholly within bounds to assert that the public life of the region, its development, prosperity and notable repute, is due largely to the clear-headed, strong-handed, virile men

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early within its borders, members of this Ancient Lodge who have filled every station in business, social, military and professional life, from that of chief magistrates of the State, on the field of arms, at the bar, in the sacred desk, and in all the walks of business life, down to the latest Apprentice. A good Masonic Lodge in a community is indeed a pillar of strength and beauty.

“They were rough borderers, these men who came to hunt and fish, to ‘cut down the wilderness and let in the sun.’ They were champions of human rights, active in the colonial and Revolutionary wars. Again I am admonished that time can scarcely permit reference to Gen. Edwards Bucknam, to Capt. John W. Weeks and their associates, the long line of forest heroes, Masonic pioneers of this, your Lodge. They were quaint in humor, practical in devise and action.

“It was Bro. Thomas Eames, of the adjoining town of Northumberland, who was so well versed in Indian strategy and the lore of the forests as to receive from a chief who contended with a white man as to superiority of the races in woodcraft, in all wherein Indians were most proficient, this encomium, ‘Tom Eame, Tom Eame! *He Indian and more too!*’

“It was Thomas Burnside, of the same town, charter member of the old Lodge,—one of Major Rogers Rangers,—who with laudable ambition visited the vice-regal capitol at Portsmouth one hundred and thirty years ago to secure the establishment of a judiciary in his wilderness township. Presented to

Guldball, Vermont.

Royal Governor Wentworth, he quaintly stated the great need of a representative of the law. When his Excellency asked him whom he would recommend for that exalted position, 'There is but one other man in town,' replied our Brother, 'Neighbor Spaulding, *and he is no more fit for a Justice of the Peace than a chestnut burr is for an eye stone.*' Our Brother got his commission, and Esquire Burnside had with his Excellency a long drink of executive brandy, as a toast to the first magistrate of Northumberland.

"Descendants of these men are in our Lodge, and I doubt not in yours, to-day.

"Our ancient brethren met on high hills, or in low dales, 'the better to observe the approach of *cowans* either ascending or descending.' Our brethren one hundred years ago met only on the Tuesday of the week of the full moon, and at 2 P. M. Past Master Eliphalet Lyman, a noted physician, informed me that this day and hour was fixed so that the brethren could complete their work before darkness fell, or if delayed, that the moon's light might guide them through the forest paths, and ward off danger from ravening beasts, adding that on more than one occasion he had been followed by wolves when on his ministrations of mercy to the sick.

"This is a significant gathering. Not only are here assembled faithful Craftsmen from the two counties, but as well representatives of the region, our meeting graced by ladies of the Eastern Star, and

good women all around us who nurture and develop Christian character and sturdy manhood. It was the family boast of the old cavalier, 'All the sons are brave, all the daughters are virtuous.' While we are not residents of Utopia there is no section of our country where clean ideals and honest actions are better understood and practised than among the highlands of our northern home.

"Again the occasion is significant, from the presence of three Grand Lodges of adjoining States, with their eminent and distinguished officers, who meet in this rural hamlet in the glad sunshine of summer, under the shadow of the great mountains, by the lovely river whose voice is mellowed by whisperings of the forests upon the Canadian border, to crown the glad conception of this Temple of Masonry and learning amid sylvan surroundings. May the eminent brethren of these honored governing bodies carry away with them pleasant memories, alike of the region and of its people.

"This is a day of abundant pleasure. The Fraternity is honored in the presence of eminent Brothers well known among the Craft, and representative in the public affairs of our sister Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Names illustrious in fraternal and public annals are yours, my brethren; be assured we appreciate your presence and give you cordial welcome.

"Once before, in the not long distant past, a

Guildhall, Vermont.

notable delegation from your city — the Boston Club — did me the great honor, and gave me the great pleasure, to visit me in Lancaster, soon after my release from the 'Old Stone Fort,' in 1890, returning over the route you have chosen through the White Mountains. I am not wholly sure that they preserved on their trip in letter, although perhaps they did in spirit, the admonition of an antique couplet —

“Solid men of Boston, make no long orations;
Solid men of Boston, drink no deep potations!”

“We gave them ready honor and welcome at the shire town. The ‘freedom of the city’ was theirs; our people conveyed them in carriages, and walked them single and by squads along our river and over our hills, winding up with a banquet at the Lancaster House, the memory of which lingers fondly with the surviving pilgrims. And now when you go to the Boston Club at Parker’s some Saturday afternoon an incident may set ajar the flood gates of memory, releasing a flow of experiences and *discoveries* that attended that wonderful trip.

“‘Discovery’ is the strong point among our friends of the city, who come to us natives in our natural habitat, and we often read in the society journals of wonderful chasms, grand rocks, unknown brooks, inaccessible summits, *discovered* by such explorers, which points of interest have been familiar to us of the woods from our childhood. But Brothers if ye *discover* what manner of men we be we are sure that you will renew

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the acquaintance. We assure you that the latch-string is, and always will be, out, and that you will have courteous greeting and fraternal welcome.

“Our friend the Worshipful Master alludes to the region wherein our lot is cast as the North Country. Such indeed it is, a veritable ‘North Countrie’ of mountain and forest, lake and river, dear to us all.

“‘On the Oak, the Ash and the bonny Ivy tree
They flourish best at home in the North Countrie.’

To us there is no country like our country, nowhere else is the sky so bright, the air so pure, the vigor of life so overmastering as here. We take our home in memory with us wherever we go, to grow fonder during absence and more devoted on our return.

“‘It’s ill to loose the ties that God decreed to bind,
Still we are the children of the heather and the wind;
Though far away from home, it is still for you and me
That the Streams are laughing gayly in the *North Countrie*.’

“With all its privileges and endearments, it is the home of Masonry, in all the good, the benefit, the enjoyment the word implies.

“We meet to dedicate a Temple to the uses of Masonry. It is a notable day and we are rejoiced to be participants in its pleasures. The occasion is significant, the purpose is important and far reaching. Masonry is the outcome from the earliest ages of recorded time, of the aspirations of mankind for sympathy among fellows; in recognition of the majesty of the Creator and the dependence of the creature. No form of creed is essential. Around the altars of the Blue

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Lodge, kneel alike, followers of Moses, of Mohamet, of Confucius, of Zoroaster and of the Christ, all recognize the primal cravings of the race, all bow before the Creator. Before modern divisions arose, Masonry was. The same signs and tokens, the same duties and benefits attend its disciples in 'Farthest Ind,' in the fastnesses of the wilderness, the desolation of the desert, the haunts of industry, the splendor of courts and cities. It is the one grand brotherhood, more extensive and potential than any organization on earth, save only the Church of Christ. Modern fraternal and benefit societies are each founded upon some one of the manifold but simple tenets of this grand society. It has no heed in its calm reliance upon the clash of factions. It is impassive to doctrinal strife,

"Nor hedges though angry creeds oppose,
With Luther's dyke or Calvin's dam."

It is not antagonistic to any church founded upon divine truth and the practice of Christian virtues, but rather it is the handmaiden to all, going before and preparing fallow ground for the fecund seed of the church militant.

"Well may we uphold the great fraternity, world wide in its scope, blessed in its beneficence, eternal in its influence !

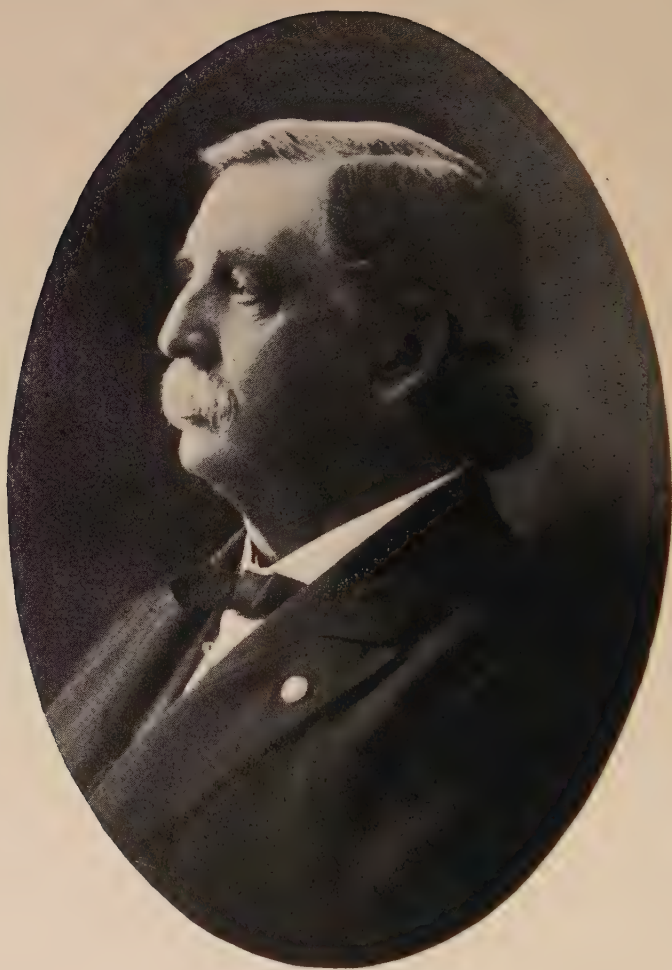
"I witnessed with great pleasure on a recent occasion the work of this new Lodge, then under dispensation. Its material is of the best, its observance excellent. It has drawn heavily upon the membership of North Star, but we have only lent our brethern to

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the good work in new fields. Time will not permit the recital of the bede-roll of the faithful brethren from Guildhall and Vermont, who have knelt at our altars. What better citizens or better men than Thaddeus T. Cushman, George S. Clark, Harvey H. Lucas, George Foster French, Henry S. Webb, among the long list from 'the other side of the river,' George Fred Martin, rough as Jubulum, tender and true, as our Ancient Grand Master, Hiram Abiff; than Colonel Orville E. Freeman, like Douglass, 'tender and true,' or his brother Ezra Selden Freeman, your honorary chaplain, of the ancient family of that name in your town, than whom it would be rare to find a more upright and devoted man and Mason.

"But my judgment admonishes me to give place. I have been in these fragmentary and desultory remarks but the 'man behind the guns' (great guns) who will soon send the reverberations of their golden speech abroad upon the receptive air of this perfect day. To them, hail and benediction.

"We of North Star welcome the courtesies extended to us; we join with you in greetings to the distinguished guests who grace this occasion, and we enjoy with you the fruition born of that Masonic devotion and filial love evidenced by our Brother whose brain and hand prepared the events of this day, to be long remembered. And so we may well say success and strength to Benton Lodge, and prosperity, honor and peace to its first Worshipful Master, Everett C. Benton."



HON. HENRY OAKES KENT. 33^o.

Guildhall, Vermont.

Hon. F. D. Hale, of Lunenburg, being very pleasantly introduced, said he was greatly surprised to be called upon, even for a few words, when our sister states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire had sent so many of their eloquent sons to grace this occasion, but he could not disappoint Col. Benton by refusing to speak briefly to the splendid audience. Boston has always been referred to as the "Hub," but to-day Guildhall is a very important spoke in the splendid wheel of New England Masonry; and because of the great act of Mr. Benton in taking of the material fruits of his success in the old Bay State in these latter years and founding here in the town of his birth a memorial to the Benton name in the beautiful building, completely furnished and dedicated to the principles of Freemasonry and the royal influence of education. He said when this County of Essex (for whose people he now spoke) was first settled in 1764, it was supposed the settlement was in the town of Lunenburg, but through some changes of lines Guildhall had the honor of the first settlement, and almost ever since the first days of the county's history the name of Benton has been strong and honorable in all the North Country, of which Col. Kent has so eloquently spoken. Addressing Col. Benton, he said, "You was born in this town, but Essex County claims you as her son, and rejoices to-day in your prosperity and honorable career. We knew your father to love and honor him, and we appreciate that characteristic of true manhood

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which has prompted in you this memorial of the past and for the future. May its influence ever tend to fonder hopes, loftier sentiments, higher aspirations and better life as the foundation of the best citizenship; and now, sir, may I voice the sentiment of Essex County in wishing you health and continued prosperity, and may God bless you and yours, now and always."

Hon. W. B. Lawrence, of Medford, Mass., said the day would long be remembered by him. He was glad for the opportunity to come up into the beautiful valley of the Upper Connecticut. He was glad to have Col. Benton as one of his warm friends. He expressed in pleasant phrases the true elements of Masonry and the worth of its principles when lived up to. He struck the keynote thought of the hour when he stated that Mr. Benton had done something to make his home better than it was when he left it. His donation was actuated by the spirit of William Penn in the words, "I will do what I can now, for I shall pass this way only once."

G. W. J. Remington of Massachusetts said, among other things, eloquently, "This recently erected monument will be a blessing to the people of this town. Wherever a Masonic Lodge is instituted there are laid the principles for making good men better. Our principles have stood in the forefront since the early dawn in the East. Brethren,

"Dare to do right; ever be true;
You each have a work none others can do;
Do it boldly; do it well;
That angels will hasten the story to tell."

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Hon. George E. Smith, ex-President Massachusetts Senate, after some indulgence in pleasantries and anecdotes, said, "This is an unique occasion. Library buildings and Masonic temples have often been dedicated to their different uses, but to-day we find a grand combination of the two, erected as a lasting and fitting memorial; an ever present blessing to this community," and closed with this sentiment to the donor: "Here's to your good health, and to your family's; may you live long and prosper."

Gen. Curtis Guild, Jr., of Boston, was the last speaker. He said: —

"Ladies and Gentlemen: — As in the Greek fable giant Antæus was given a new measure of strength whenever his vast limbs touched mother earth, so is it an ever quickening inspiration for us dwellers in cities to return, even for a brief season, to the beautiful old hill towns still instinct with the spirit of our Puritan ancestors. The Green Mountain State has ever been a leader in good citizenship and devotion to American ideals, whether in the days of Ethan Allen, or on that July day in '63, when the high tide of the Great Rebellion, the surging wave of Pickett's charge at Gettysburg, was met and shattered into harmless spray by the glorious advance of Stannard's Vermont Brigade.

"The act of generous and graceful public spirit that culminated in the ceremonies of to-day is worthy of the State's traditions. We need not eulogize the character of Everett C. Benton. The affection and

esteem in which you hold him who knew him as a boy is shared in equal measure by those of us from Massachusetts, who have only known him as a man, and every inch a man. He has won his way, like so many new England boys, by sheer force of energy and character, to one of the first places in the commercial world of our Puritan capital. This generous gift to his native town is no atonement for unworthy methods used in amassing a fortune, but rather the culmination of a life ever active for good and the greatest though neither the first nor the last demonstration of a love for his fellow men, which is the very core of our world-wide institution in which he is an acknowledged leader.

“The stained glass window at the lowest landing of the stairway portrays a simple toiler in the rough garb of an artisan; at the top of the stairway in all the splendor of the royal purple, there sits enthroned the incarnation of success. These beautiful pictures typify not merely fraternal love but success through work which, after all, is the ideal not only of the true Freemason but of the true American.

“This is no time to dwell upon the character of the great institution of Freemasonry whose history runs back through so many centuries and whose spread is only limited by the world. I might tell you the tale of Northern prisoners at Andersonville, whose lot was easier because of the invisible bonds that bound them to their jailers. I might tell you of the recognition of the duty of man to his fellow men evidenced to

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explorers by brother Masons in the fastnesses of mountain ranges in Thibet. I could tell you of shipwrecks on the western coasts of Africa, where marauding Arabs, intent only on their profession of robbery and murder, were transformed into messengers of rescue, when reminded of their vows at the altar of the mother lodge.

“Perhaps you will excuse me if I relate two anecdotes which may demonstrate that ours is no proscriptive organization, but one whose sole object is to benefit mankind.

“In 1867, in the city of Florence, a young American traveller with his wife were introduced at a public reception to the man who was, at that time, the idol of all Italy. Peace reigned over the kingdom. The American travellers were on their way to visit the ancient splendors of Rome. The American journalist and the Italian commander were utter strangers, but recognized each other as brother Masons. The great commander, immediately on that recognition, requested the American to return in the evening, and under the Masonic oath of secrecy, revealed to him the fact that inside of ten days Italy would rise in revolution; that the first military operations would be a siege upon Rome and that if the American persisted in his plan, serious inconvenience, possibly famine and death might be his portion. The generous Italian wished to spare a non-combatant though a perfect stranger, yet a brother Mason, the danger of a siege. The American

accepted the advice. Without revealing the reason even to his wife, he instantly left Italy. In less than a fortnight the revolution broke out, exactly in accordance with the warning given, but no hint of what was to happen was given in advance to the world by the American journalist, who was as true to his oath as the Italian was to his. The American Mason was my father — the Italian was Giuseppe Garibaldi.

“In December, 1898, I was in the great arsenal of Havana, to which I had happened to be sent in connection with the surrender of that city, to arrange for the carrying out of the conditions in regard to arms and ammunition. In the great mass of weapons that had accumulated through the many years during which the Spanish officers had searched Havana for concealed arms, there lay two Masonic swords. I was accompanied by a brother Mason, Governor Durbin of Indiana, then Colonel of the 61st Indiana Volunteers. Picking up one of these two swords of ceremony, I remarked that it did not come under the terms of the surrender, not being a weapon. I discovered, to my very great astonishment, that my host, this lieutenant-colonel of Spanish artillery, was a brother Mason. One of those swords hangs in the Grand Lodge in Indiana ; the other in the Masonic Temple in Boston. They were handed to us by this Spanish brother, with the truly Masonic sentiment, ‘I trust, brothers, that you will accept these, not merely as a souvenir of the great brotherhood that overpasses the boundaries of the

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nations, but of that other brotherhood that should prevail between good soldiers, whether the fortune of war sets them upon the same or upon opposite sides.'

"I must not forget, however, that this building is something more than a Masonic Temple. It contains a public library, for the recreation, for the instruction of the people. On the walls of our own library in Boston, are carved the words 'The Commonwealth requires the education of the people as the safeguard of order and liberty.' This great truth is but half a truth, after all, for if the educated man does not use his education, the gift of the republic is worse than useless. Education is not given to us that we may isolate ourselves upon lofty columns and from lonely heights censure the misfortunes and mistakes of mankind. Education is given to us that mingling with our brother men, we may the better minister to their needs. It is well that in this smiling valley, there should stand such a lasting recognition that above the privileges of wealth are the duties of American citizenship.

"We cannot all succeed, but we can all strive, and strive nobly. It is a member of a proscribed race to whom the gates of usefulness even are too often closed, who has taught the world there may be success in noble failure. Better inspiration for poor humanity has never been given than in the lines of the black man, Paul Lawrence Dunbar :

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“ ‘The man who is strong to fight his fight,
And whose will no front can daunt,
If the truth be truth, and the right be right,
Is the man that the ages want.
Though he fail and fall in grim defeat,
Yet he has not fled the strife.
The house of earth shall smell more sweet
For the perfume of his life.’ ”

All the speakers were enthusiastically applauded. The singing of three verses of “America” terminated the exercises at the church.

Again did the ladies of Guildhall do themselves proud by furnishing an extra nice supper. They furnished over seven hundred meals during the day.

At seven o’clock occurred the installation of officers by M. W. W. Scott Nay, P. G. M., assisted by R. W. Daniel S. Danforth, Grand Marshal, of Vermont, as follows : —

E. C. Benton, W. M.
F. N. Piper, S. W.
Augustus Drew, J. W.
G. F. Martin, Treasurer.
S. M. Matthews, Secretary.
A. W. Scott, S. D.
S. G. Matthews, J. D.
A. L. Hall, S. S.
J. Downer, J. S.
F. L. Follansby, I. S.
E. S. Freeman, Hon. Chaplain.
Robert Chase, Chaplain.
Guy C. Hayes, Marshal.
R. H. Philbrick, Tyler.



HON. CURTIS GUILD, JR.

Guildball, Vermont.

The officers being duly installed, and in response to thanks by Wor. Bro. Benton, M. W. Bro. Nay spoke as follows : —

“ I feel quite unworthy of the compliment which you give me. I am pleased, however, that you are satisfied with the installation ceremony, and that it meets with your approval. When I was asked to perform this service I was gratified, inasmuch as it would in a sense be the last act of my administration as Grand Master, and a fitting close, as far as my relations with Benton Lodge are concerned, which Lodge I am proud of as being a child of my creation. The dispensation, the laying of the corner stone of its beautiful home, and now the installation of its officers, will always awaken thoughts pleasant to contemplate, and which in memory will be affectionately cherished.

“ To you personally, Worshipful Master, I feel under obligations for the courtesies received at your hands, for the fraternal way you have manifested your loyalty to me as Grand Master, as well as your firm adherence to the tenets of Freemasonry.

“ I bespeak for Benton Lodge the full measure of success which it merits, and for you the welcome plaudit of ‘ good and faithful servant,’ with the recompense of a just reward.”

The visiting brethren from Massachusetts then gave an exemplification of the work in their jurisdiction, with the stations occupied by : —

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R. W. Bro. Frank K. Porter as W. M.,
W. Bro. I. B. Frost as S. W.,
W. Bro. G. C. Flett as J. W.,
W. Bro. W. H. Pierce as Marshal,
Bro. J. H. Cullis as S. D.,
W. Bro. Clarence Tebbetts as J. D.,
Bro. G. M. Rogers as S. S.,
Bro. A. W. Burke as J. S.

Following the work addresses were delivered by a number of Past Masters and Masters of various lodges in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont, among whom were R. W. F. K. Porter, Waltham, Mass.; Wor. W. H. Pierce, Boston; Wor. E. A. Symmes, Winchester, Mass.; Wor. G. C. Flett, Belmont, Mass.; Wor. Clarence Tebbetts, Waltham, Mass.; Wor. Benj. Taft, Ayer, Mass.; Wor. G. W. Sampson, Lexington, Mass.; R. W. A. A. Folsom, D. G. M., Mass.; R. W. W. M. Rich, West Concord, Vt.; Wor. Bro. McDowell, R. W. Bro. Wells of Lyndonville, Vt., and Wor. Bro. Irving B. Frost, Master of Belmont Lodge of Massachusetts, from which Wor. Bro. Benton dimitted. He was the principal speaker of the evening. His address follows:—

“Worshipful Master and Brother Masons: It is with feelings of intense gratification and pride that I, as Master of Belmont Lodge in the State of Massachusetts, and by virtue of this high and honorable office am permitted to represent my Lodge in Ver-

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mont, this sister State of my own, and one glorious in history for her chivalrous devotion to her country in times of war, and for her high moral and religious example in times of peace. And more especially are these feelings prompted and intensified at this time, because it becomes my privilege to bear witness to the love, gratitude and high esteem not only of the town in which he lives, not only of the State of his adoption which he has served faithfully and well in many high and important offices of public trust, but of Belmont Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and of all Masons who have been so fortunate as to have felt the stimulus of his energy, faithfulness and earnest devotion to our Fraternity, the Worshipful Master of Benton Lodge, the honored son of Guildhall, Vermont, Col. Everett C. Benton.

Address
of
Wor. Bro.
Irving B.
Frost.

“He came to us a youth and a stranger, bringing with him a heritage something better than gold, a mind and heart filled with the precept, counsel and example of wise, faithful and judicious parents, indomitable courage, and a native instinct and disposition to fear God and love his neighbor as himself.

“How wise were these precepts, how faithfully did these parents lay the foundations of this son’s life and character, let the silent walls of this beautiful structure, erected to God upon the native soil of this son of Vermont, and dedicated to the holy St. John, be a mute but lasting monument not only to the son, but to those parents whose son he is.

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“Upon coming to Massachusetts he secured a position in one of the largest business houses of the city of Boston, where his ability and business worth was soon discovered and appreciated, rising steadily step by step, and upon the death of its founder he became a part of its organization, where he can to-day be found seated at his desk when not in Guildhall.

“Always taking a lively interest in local affairs, and especially in that part of the town in which he lives (the village of Waverley) he has been the recognized leader in all that meant improvement and advance.

“As a member and as an officer of Belmont Lodge his magnetic influence was felt upon all occasions, and when he asked for his dimit, it was with regret that we voted to grant it, but knowing his ambition and noble intentions, and feeling, Brothers of Benton Lodge, that what would be our loss would be your gain, and knowing also his kindly interest in Belmont Lodge would still remain, and his example would be ever with us, we are content.

“In Masonry, I point with pride to his record. It will show far better than I can describe that the obligations taken at its sacred altar were to him no idle tale. And I would like to inscribe not only upon the walls of this building, but upon the heart of every member of this Lodge, as my testimony to the record of your Worshipful Master, these words — ‘Ever Faithful.’

“This Public Library and Masonic Building — what

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nobler gift could a man bestow upon the town of his birth? Below we find knowledge, and above the light that illumines the pathway of truth and the right.

““A temple thrice holy,”
A brotherhood where
They meet on the level,
And work by the square.”

“Built in the rural but beautiful spot among the everlasting hills of this proud, patriotic and loyal New England State, with its foundations firmly resting upon the same foundations as these mountains erected by God, it shall never fail. And this sacred altar here erected shall stand until every Free and Accepted Mason shall be called upon to offer up his adorations to the Grand Architect of the Universe in the realms beyond the grave.

“And now, Worshipful Master, in closing I feel impelled to say just a word to you as a friend and brother Mason. Knowing you intimately, as it has been my privilege in all the many and varied walks of life,—in your family, in your social and business relations with your fellowmen, and within the sacred precincts of the Masonic Temple,—I wish to express my *confidence* in you, and my *appreciation* for what you have done for Belmont Lodge; what you have done for the Masons of your native State, and for the example which you are setting your brother Masons everywhere, and my faith in the government of your future actions to the end. And I can do so, Worshipful Master, in no more fitting way than to quote

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these words of St. Paul (in his charge to Timothy expressing his confidence) : ‘ For I know in whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which has been entrusted to him against that day.’

“ And so, Worshipful Master, I believe that you will not grow weary of well doing, and when the summons comes to you that must come to every one of us, to stand before the Great and Worthy Master of the Universe, the words ‘ Well done, good and faithful servant,’ shall be spoken in your behalf.”

Guildhall, Vermont.

VISITING BRETHREN AT DEDICATION OF MASONIC BUILDING.

- M. W. Charles R. Montague, Woodstock, *Grand Master.*
R. W. Olin W. Daley, White River Junction, *Deputy Grand Master.*
R. W. Walter E. Ranger, Johnson, *Grand Senior Warden.*
R. W. Chas. A. Calderwood, St. Johnsbury, *Grand Junior Warden.*
R. W. Austin D. Paige, Lyndonville, as *Grand Treasurer.*
R. W. Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, *Grand Secretary.*
W. Myron J. Horton, Poultney, *Grand Senior Deacon.*
W. Arthur C. McDowell, Lyndonville, as *Grand Junior Deacon.*
W. Edwin L. Wells, Lyndonville, as *Grand Lecturer.*
W. Rev. Chas. F. Partridge, Woodstock, as *Grand Chaplain.*
W. Daniel S. Danforth, St. Albans, *Grand Marshal.*
W. Charles V. Bryant, Londonderry, *Grand Sword Bearer.*
W. Daniel C. Barber, Burlington, *Grand Senior Steward.*
W. Albert Killam, Burlington, *Grand Junior Steward.*
W. Adelbert L. Aldrich, West Burke, as *Grand Tyler.*
W. William M. Rich, West Concord, *District Deputy Grand Master for Twelfth Masonic District.*

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W. Scott Nay, P. G. M., McDonough, No. 26, Jericho, Vt.							
A. D. Forsaith, Moose River, No. 82, West Concord, Vt.							
F. D. Hale,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
G. W. Parris,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Kyle T. Brown,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
L. A. Nichols,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
A. J. Miller,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
T. R. Drew,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Julian Bell,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. R. Bell,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Selim E. Grout,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
C. H. Tilton,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
E. D. Lee,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
F. L. Forsaith	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. C. Pratt,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
A. J. Lyon,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
H. B. Dowse,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
G. G. Temple,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
M. V. R. Vance,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. G. King,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
H. T. Silsby,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
W. H. Bishop, Island Pond, No. 44, Island Pond, Vt.							
M. L. Dyer,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
H. B. Farmer,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
L. Stevens,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
J. S. Sweeney,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
D. A. Haynes,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
A. D. Norcutt,	"	"	"	"	"	"	"



THE PROCESSION AT THE DEDICATION.

(Belmont Lodge of Belmont, Mass.)

Guildhall, Vermont.

H. B. Hinman, Island Pond, No. 44, Island Pond, Vt.
 R. P. Bickford, " " " " " "
 John Willoughby, " " " " " "
 C. M. Fletcher, " " " " " "
 A. L. Aldrich, Caledonian, No. 98, West Burke, Vt.
 H. H. Packer, " " " " " "
 A. H. Silsby, " " " " " "
 H. Wortheim, " " " " " "
 D. A. Mackay, Passumpsic, No. 27, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 A. Adams, " " " " " "
 H. E. Koepka, " " " " " "
 C. O. Baker, " " " " " "
 F. A. Turner, Memphremagog, No. 65, Newport, Vt.
 H. C. Wilcox, Waterman, No. 83, Johnson, Vt.
 Chas. W. Kelley, Green Mountain, No. 68, Cabot, Vt.
 A. A. Folsom, D. G. M., Columbian, Boston, Mass.
 James S. Blake, Columbian, Boston, Mass.
 Curtis Guild, Jr., " " "
~~Albert L. Richardson, Mt. Lebanon, Boston, Mass.~~
 Arthur W. Burke, Joseph Warren, Boston, Mass.
 W. A. Rosebrook, Massachusetts, Boston, Mass.
 D. T. Remington, Jerusalem, Northampton, Mass.
 William B. Lawrence, Mount Vernon, Medford, Mass.
 J. A. Bailey, Jr., Hiram, Arlington, Mass.
 Geo. E. Smith, Palestine, Everett, Mass.
 Irving B. Frost, Belmont, Belmont, Mass.
 Joseph H. Cullis, " " "
 Chas. H. Houlahan, " " "
 George M. Rogers, " " "

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George C. Flett, Belmont, Belmont, Mass.

Thos. L. Creeley, " " "

W. G. Hall, " " "

D. S. McCabe, " " "

C. H. Slade, " " "

Frank D. Chant, " " "

H. H. Russell, " " "

William H. Pierce, " " "

Fred E. Poor, " " "

E. A. Castner, " " "

James W. Baldwin, " " "

E. Allen Pierce, " " "

Frank K. Porter, Monitor, Waltham, Mass.

Clarence Tebbetts, " " "

John E. Cobb, " " "

Eugene L. Folsom, " " "

Clifford S. Cobb, " " "

Herbert M. Gragg, " " "

Henry S. Milton, " " "

Hermann G. Smith, " " "

F. C. Brooks, " " "

F. B. French, " " "

Edwin A. Symmes, William Parkman, Winchester,
Mass.

Thos. Leavitt, Montgomery, Milford, Mass.

Benjamin Taft, Caleb Butler, Ayer, Mass.

T. E. Ferguson, Philanthropic, Marblehead, Mass.

C. D. Crawford, Watertown, Mass.

Henry O. Kent, North Star, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.

Guildhall, Vermont.

F. H. Perkins, North Star, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.					
John M. Wilson,	"	"	"	"	"
G. R. Magoon,	"	"	"	"	"
Frank Spooner,	"	"	"	"	"
G. B. Underwood,	"	"	"	"	"
F. B. Spaulding,	"	"	"	"	"
Elijah Blood,	"	"	"	"	"
E. E. Smith,	"	"	"	"	"
N. H. McCarter,	"	"	"	"	"
W. H. Sargent,	"	"	"	"	"
E. E. Tebbetts,	"	"	"	"	"
H. C. Forbush,	"	"	"	"	"
P. J. Noyes,	"	"	"	"	"
C. O. Whipp,	"	"	"	"	"
W. L. Rowell,	"	"	"	"	"
H. S. Webb,	"	"	"	"	"
N. A. Hastings,	"	"	"	"	"
J. C. Eastman,	"	"	"	"	"
W. M. Heath,	"	"	"	"	"
C. V. Cobleigh,	"	"	"	"	"
E. C. Roby,	"	"	"	"	"
Edward R. Kent,	"	"	"	"	"
Thomas S. Ellis,	"	"	"	"	"
Nelson Sparks,	"	"	"	"	"
Charles Forbes,	"	"	"	"	"
Geo. E. Stevens,	"	"	"	"	"
Geo. S. Blake,	"	"	"	"	"
J. D. Howe,	"	"	"	"	"
J. M. Solomon,	"	"	"	"	"

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

H. A. Moore, North Star, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.
 H. R. Holmes, " " " " " "
 W. B. Blake, Rockingham, No. 76, Candia, N. H.
 John E. Benton, Sabatis, No. 95, Berlin, N. H.
 W. A. Boothby, " " " " "
 J. Howard Wight, " " " " "
 Ira D. Chase (J. G. W.), Union, Bristol, N. H.
 W. W. Pike, Gorham, No. 73, Gorham, N. H.
 J. L. Felt, Jewell, Suncook, N. H.
 C. H. Wheeler, Rising Star, Nashua, N. H.
 W. F. Ireson, Evening Star, No. 37, Colebrook, N. H.
 W. W. Ross, " " " " " "
 Chas. E. Clark, " " " " " "
 C. E. Hartshorn, " " " " " "
 Edwin Green, " " " " " "
 S. E. Watts, " " " " " "
 C. H. Appleton, Burns, No. 48, Littleton, N. H.
 S. L. Simonds, " " " " "
 T. B. Davis, Tyrian, No. 73, Mechanics Falls, Me.
 W. A. Dunham, St. George, St. George, N. B.

Guildhall, Vermont.

PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10.

These ceremonies commenced at 1 P. M. There was a large attendance, despite the showers. Great interest was shown, and the exercises throughout were very impressive. Colonel Benton having read the deed of conveyance, Rev. H. O. Worthley fittingly responded on behalf of the citizens. He said:—

“We who are standing in this hall have just entered into a new inheritance. This beautiful building has been deeded to you, your children and your children’s children. From foundation to cupola it is a work of art. Exquisite in its appointments and finish, it would be an honor to any city of our State, and it has become the property of our little town. We who have entered into this inheritance cannot now appreciate the full value of our new acquisition. A public library is of the greatest benefit to any town, but to this community, which is secluded among the hills, cut off from the association with the city, its advantages can hardly be estimated. It will not be given to you and me to know the widening circle of its influence, for to our children and our children’s children it will be a light guiding them into higher paths of learning and broader spheres of usefulness.

“Its shelves are stored with the best thoughts of the greatest thinkers, the best histories of the best

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Address
of
Rev. H. O.
Worthley.

historians, the best stories of the best authors, the best poems of the best poets, and the best biographies of our foremost men. Books contain the wisdom of the world and the world's experience, and he who is wise will profit by the experience of others. In this twentieth century, when so much is done for our children's mental training, the young man or woman who does not lay in youth the foundation for a broad education is handicapped for life.

"We all live in a circle and think in a circle. The broader that circle is the larger and more useful our life becomes. What one influence can broaden and deepen the community life like the introduction of a public library?

"If Colonel Benton will indulge a personal reference. While the gentlemen were speaking yesterday words of praise and commendation, it struck me that one aspect of this gift was hardly touched upon. Those who have lived much of their life at home cannot appreciate that deep love and longing for the fatherland which burns in the breast of every true man whose lot in life takes him far from his father's house. New friends cannot efface the memory of the old, and the home of his adoption, however dear, cannot take the place of the home of his childhood. Our Colonel left his home while a boy to work his way to prominence in a city somewhat remote from his native town. He has had an experience which those who remained at home could not share, and

Guildhall, Vermont.

now he has brought that experience home in visible form. In this artistic building and these beautifully furnished rooms he has brought us something of the culture and refinement of the city, and in the books stored on yonder shelves he has brought to us something of the world's wisdom. Mr. Benton has learned that great lesson of life, that the best way to help one's fellow man is to help him to help himself, and he has placed within the reach of every young man and woman of this community, whatever their circumstances may be, the inspiration to a wider and a more useful life, for the best way to help our sons and daughters is to inspire them with the desire for a liberal education. Our great President Lincoln learned life's early lessons before an open fireplace, by the light of a pine knot, from a book he had walked many miles to borrow. We may sit in this beautiful room, lighted by electricity, and borrow freely of the world's richest treasures.

"Another lesson Mr. Benton learned from his experience, which he has set before us, is this, — that it is easier to earn a livelihood with brain than brawn. Now in his love for his native town, and his purpose to help its sons and daughters in their struggle with the world, and to inspire them with a desire for a life of broader culture and wider usefulness, he has erected here this public library.

"I know of no better or more acceptable way of showing our gratitude for this beautiful gift than by

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

promoting the cause for which it was established and stimulating in the young people of this community the desire for knowledge. In this spirit we now dedicate this library to the cause of learning. We dedicate it to the instruction of our young people and to the broadening and deepening of our community life. It shall stand beside our churches and our schools as an influence for right and righteousness. It shall stand a monument to the love and loyalty and the true manhood of its founder."

At the conclusion of his remarks he offered a dedicatory prayer, following which adjournment was taken for dinner at the Grange Hall. Certainly the ladies deserve great credit for their efforts. It was no small task to furnish so successfully four collations, but they were equal to the requirements of the occasion. In behalf of those who partook of their hospitality the Herald doffs its hat and makes its best bow.

At three o'clock came the exercises in the Congregational Church, opened by scripture reading by Rev. Mr. Worthley, and prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Flint. Music was furnished by a double quartette and chorus, and solos were rendered by Miss A. C. Damon of Boston and Miss Florence M. Wilson, formerly of Guildhall. Miss Katherine C. Follansby, formerly of Guildhall, musical instructor in the Christian College, Kentucky, played an organ selection, and with great skill directed the music. All was given in fine style and much enjoyed. Colonel Benton



GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT AT DEDICATION.

Guildhall, Vermont.

again presided, and said many excellent things. The speakers were Governor Jordan of New Hampshire, Hon. Walter E. Ranger, State Superintendent of Education, Hon. Robert Chase, Hon. Horace W. Bailey of Newbury, P. R. Follansby and Frank N. Piper.

Governor Jordan was very funny, and said many bright things. He was received with almost an ovation. His speech was largely reminiscent, and he paid a warm and worthy tribute to Vermont. He presented to Colonel Benton for the public library some papers bearing the signatures of men who were identified with the early history of the town.

Hon. Horace W. Bailey followed Governor Jordan, and for ten minutes he kept the audience in a roar. He said Guildhall had had a very narrow escape, for in 1860 Colonel Benton's father lived in Newbury, but moved North to give Everett a chance to be born in Guildhall. However, Orange County was not jealous of Essex, nor Newbury jealous of Guildhall, for one of Newbury's good daughters had but recently given a library to her home town. He said Governor Jordan had stoien his thunder, and had used up all the bouquets which he (Bailey) had been picking for the occasion for several weeks. This seemed to please the audience immensely, for they understood that the genial Horace was one of the surprises of the day. He then, in behalf of northeastern Vermont, paid a compliment to Governor Jordan, saying, "We have known New

Hampshire's Governor longer and love him better than our own." He next paid the women of Guildhall a gilt-edged compliment in their management of the banquet hall; said he had eaten banquets in five or six languages, had for forty years eaten picnic dinners and at collations and on his relations, but the good women of Guildhall were the cap sheaf, and turning to Governor Jordan he said, "Governor, if you will go up to the Grange Hall for your supper you will be sure of one square meal during your administration." In closing he paid a deserved compliment to Guildhall and her distinguished citizen.

All the addresses were received with enthusiastic appreciation. As might be expected, the address by Hon. W. E. Ranger was timely and appropriate. His subject largely was of course Education, and a consideration of the library as a product of human life and a means of individual and social culture, and it was handled by him in an eloquent, able and highly entertaining manner. His impressive words as he moralized upon his theme held his audience in close attention, and it is with regret that we find ourselves unable to give the address in full. The statistics given by him were quite interesting. More than eighty free libraries have been established with State aid since 1894. There are now one hundred and twenty towns in the State having free libraries; thirty-four not free, and ninety-three towns have no libraries. There are also many growing school libraries. To-day three-

Guildball, Vermont.

fourths of the people of Vermont have free library privileges. This little story he declared revealed the large place the library holds in Vermont education. Closing he said :

“The relation of the event we observe to this grandest movement in human life gives to it a serious meaning and an inspiring significance. It shows that our friend, brother and benefactor has heard in his soul the wonderful harmony of heaven's first song to earth, ‘Peace on earth, and goodwill to men.’ To me it is an occasion of exceedingly great joy, for it is in harmony with the beneficent plans of Him who doeth all things well and whose mercy endureth forever. Another characteristic element of this occasion is that it is a gracious requital for childhood's nurture, for youth's friendship and for manhood's honor, given in memory of ties that bind an honored and beloved family to a worthy community, and rendered by one who in loyalty endows the home of his fathers with a share of his own rich life. And it is not only worldly wealth and honor that he gives. He gives greater treasure than these in his fond memory of dear old days, in his deep faith in the strong men and fair women of the North Country, in his unwavering loyalty to his early home, in his unfading affection for old friends and neighbors, and in his noble purpose of life to serve his fellow men. Another element gives especial charm and beauty to this notable event. Colonel Benton has not merely given from his means

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

and left to others the direction of his gift ; but he gives himself. The building dedicated to-day with its artistic finish, its appropriate decoration, and its exquisite adornment, is an expression of his thought, refinement and culture. ‘His heart is in his work, and the heart giveth grace unto every part.’ It is an issue of his life. As such it is, indeed, a beautiful and worthy memorial of the love, respect and benevolence that one of God’s noblemen bears to his friends in the home of his birth. Likewise has the warm interest, the loyal effort and inspiring co-operation of Mrs. Benton been united with those of her husband in this great and good work. Especially in the selection of books and in an affectionate care for the library has her efficient service enhanced the generous deed of her husband and won a grateful appreciation of like worth and deeds. Thus have our dear and honored friends, Colonel and Mrs. Benton, done a patriotic, a Christian service, with a devoted American public spirit.

“O, land of lands! to thee we give
Our prayers, our hopes, our service free;
In thee thy sons shall nobly live,
And at thy need shall die for thee.”

“Finally, when in future days shall be recalled the incidents of this occasion, and its hope and joy and good and beauty be remembered, then will the heart of him beholding these things in the vista of the past fondly listen to the voice of memory’s spirit : —

Guildhall, Vermont.

“ See golden days, fruitful of golden deeds,
With joy and love triumphing.”

Before the closing of the exercises in the church the following resolutions expressing acknowledgment and appreciation of Colonel Benton's gift, presented by the trustees, were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted : —

“ *Whereas*, In view of the munificent gift of Col. Everett C. Benton of a Public Library and Masonic Building, the Trustees of the same submit to the citizens of Guildhall, Maidstone and Northumberland the following resolutions : —

“ *Resolved*, That we, the people of Guildhall, Maidstone and Northumberland, desire to acknowledge and to place on record our deep obligation to Colonel Benton for his kindness and munificence. That we wish to express our appreciation of the beautiful building he has erected, which is an ornament to our town and will become the source of a great blessing to the community.

“ *Resolved*, That we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to him for this most substantial proof of his love for his native town and his active interest in its welfare. That we have enjoyed and appreciated the splendid programme he has provided.

“ *Resolved*, That we hereby acknowledge our love and esteem for one who (at the personal sacrifice of time and money) has done so much for the best welfare of this community, also for the members of his family,

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

whose kindly co-operation has made his good works possible.

“Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be preserved among the records of the library, and a copy sent to the Essex County Herald for publication.”

The trustees are Robert Chase and P. R. Follansby for Guildhall, S. S. Benton for Maidstone, F. N. Piper for Northumberland, Hon. Geo. N. Dale for the remaining towns in the county, and E. C. Benton perpetual trustee, at his death his eldest heir to succeed him, and so on forever to remain in his family. In case of vacancy among the others it is filled by the remaining trustees.

The display of fireworks at the close of the day was a magnificent spectacle, and was the best ever seen in the county. It was admirably conducted, and gave delight to the vast crowd that witnessed it.

O, for a Benton in every town in the county and State !

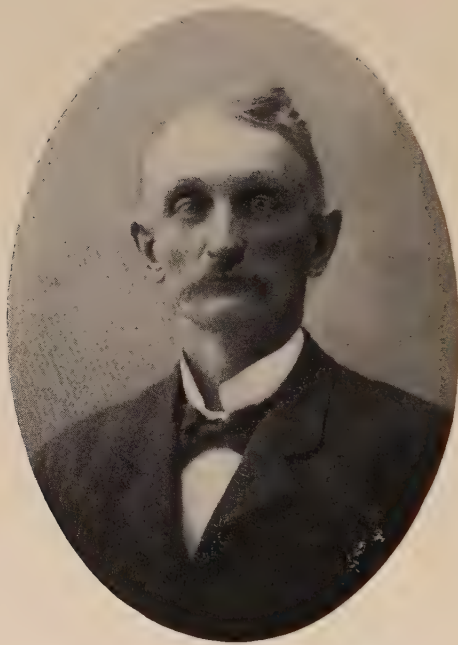
Guildhall, Vermont.

A WORD ABOUT THE BUILDING.

As already stated the building is complete in all its details, alike in the library and reading-room and the Masonic hall, all lighted by electricity. It contains seven stained-glass windows, veritable works of art, that in the library said to be the best in the State. Entrance to the lodge room is made up a flight of winding stairs consisting of three, five and seven steps, and at the foot of the first flight are the two pillars and globes. The lodge room is very handsomely furnished, in fact it is a gem. The letter G in the East is formed of one hundred and nineteen bull's-eyes, and when lighted presents a magnificent appearance. The Lodge was instituted last September. It now has thirty-one members, and a sinking fund of \$300. A remarkably good showing surely. A portion of the fees received from every new member is set apart to keep up this fund. A wise and laudable thing to do, and other Lodges might well copy the example of this Lodge in this respect. Alongside the lodge room is a small ante-room, furnished with desk and chairs, which Mr. Benton has very thoughtfully and kindly set aside for the use of members of the Masonic fraternity residing in Essex County while attending court who may want a quiet place in which to do clerical work, etc.

The decorative windows in this building attract the attention of all who visit the town. There are four

large ones. One representing Hypatia is in the reading-room of the library, while the other three, which symbolize the three initial degrees of Masonry, are situated in the hallway leading to the Masonic rooms above. Each window is a work of art. The coloring is so exquisitely done that, when viewed in the proper light, the figures are almost lifelike. They reflect great credit upon the designers. The subject for the window in the reading-room was very happily chosen. [HYPATIA—Mathematician, philosopher and finally one of the martyrs of paganism, was the daughter and disciple of the mathematician and philosopher Theon, and was born in Alexandria not earlier than 350 A. D. After a long period of study (partly, perhaps, in Athens) she became a distinguished lecturer on philosophy in her native city, and ultimately became the recognized head of the Neo-Platonic school there. The fascination of her great eloquence (she is said on more than one occasion to have proved an effective advocate in the courts of law) and the charm of a rare modesty and beauty, combined with her remarkable intellectual gifts, attracted to her class-room a large number of disciples, over whom her influence was very great. Among these was Synesius, who afterwards became bishop of Ptolemais, several of whose letters addressed to her, full of chivalrous admiration and reverence, are still extant. In the conflicts between the various elements of Alexandrian society which took place shortly after the accession



WOR. BRO. FRANK N. PIPER,
Past Master Benton Lodge, No. 88.

Guildhall, Vermont.

of Cyril to the patriarchate in 412 A. D., she became closely identified as counsellor and friend with the prefect Orestes, and in the same degree made herself an object of fear and hatred to the Nitrian monks and the fanatical Christian mob, by whom she was ultimately murdered under circumstances of revolting barbarity. Socrates has related how she was torn from her chariot, dragged to the Cæsareum (then a Christian church), stripped naked, cut to pieces with oyster shells, and finally burnt piecemeal. Most prominent among the actual perpetrators of the crime was one Peter, a reader; but there seems little reason to doubt Theodoret's assertion of Cyril's real complicity. Hypatia, according to Suidas, was the author of commentaries on the mathematician Diophantus, and on the Conics of Appolonius of Perga, and also of an astronomical canon. None of these works have come down to our time, but their titles, combined with expressions in the letters of Cynesius, who consulted her about the construction of an astrolabe, would seem to indicate that she devoted herself especially to astronomy and mechanics. Of her philosophical opinions nothing is known, except that they shared the general eclectic features of the Alexandrian Neo-Platonism.] This window is a very beautiful piece of art. The figure is gracefully draped in a long robe of Grecian style. In one hand a book is supported, while in the other she carries a torch. When we take into account the historical setting the

Benton Lodge, No. 88.

whole effect is to symbolize the broadest wisdom and culture, combined with dignity, grace and virtue. As one enters the hall leading to the Masonic rooms the first window represents the first degree of Masonry, called "Entered Apprentice." The subject is a young man bending under the weight of a heavy block of stone which is carried upon the back. The figure is scantily clad after the ancient style, leaving the arms and lower limbs bare. The groundwork is deep blue above but dark brown on the sides and base. Against this the figure stands out in bold relief. Halfway up the stairs, and on the side of the building, is the window which symbolizes the second degree of Masonry, "Fellow Craft." In this window the subject is a young man, but he represents the skilled workman, who with a hammer and chisel is shaping the granite square to its proper dimensions. The ground work in this window is like that in the window below. If we are to follow Masonic tradition these two windows represent two classes of workmen who toiled on Solomon's Temple. As one enters the upper hall he finds the third window before him. This window is smaller than the others, and symbolizes the third degree of Masonry, or Master Mason. Its subject is the figure of a man in middle life dressed in purple. In his right hand he carries a tablet, from which he directs the mechanics under his charge. He is the master architect who has general oversight of the building of the temple. In the language of

Guildhall, Vermont.

Masonry, the first window symbolizes youth and inexperience ; the second the man who has acquired a knowledge of the sciences ; the third the older brother who has become wise, whose mental and spiritual faculties are fully developed. Taken together the three windows well represent the general development of human life, of body, mind and soul.

In the space allotted for books are a number of adjustable shelves, capable of holding several thousand volumes. The reading-room is all that could be desired, well lighted, well supplied with chairs and tables, is large and airy, has an open fireplace, — in a word, everything is there for comfort and convenience alike ; there seems to be nothing lacking. The Herald was the first newspaper placed on file.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

EDITORIAL, JULY 19, 1901.

Colonel Benton's gifts were nominally to the town of Guildhall, but as Guildhall is the centre and representative of the County of Essex, its benefits become common, and through the town their associations are with the county as well.

Colonel Benton opened his eyes on rather an exceptional condition of things. The town was considerably over a century old when he was born, and the county nearly a century. In the town there had been strong men, and ever since the early thirties, when it was so ably represented in the State Senate, it had possessed men actively participating in the State government. Guildhall had always been the theatre of brilliant forensic exhibitions, to which had been attracted the best lawyers in and out of the State. The town and county had a history, and young Benton, hearing traditions of the times, quickly caught the idea of the great impropriety of the existence of such historic conditions and all without any record by which they could be traced and perpetuated, and he soon enquired, have we

"Any pleasant books that silently among
Our county treasures take their places,
And are to us as if a living tongue
Spake from the printed leaves or printed faces?"

and finding none, and while yet a small boy, he picked up traditions, listened to local stories, arranged events and the names of those who had figured in the history of the locality. He almost improvised a press, sup-

Guildhall, Vermont.

plied an ingenuity and perseverance most remarkable for his age, and under most unfavorable circumstances every way he produced a pleasant, useful and unexpected history of the town, and one which included a very considerable portion of that of the men and times in the county. (This book he put into type and printed himself). And so nature produced the right boy in the right time to rescue the history of the town and county from oblivion. This disinterested and laborious work of his boyhood bound him to his native town and county. And being bound by his ancestral church to one of its sacred places he erected a monument there which commemorates the location of the first church edifice in town, and also typifies a filial respect and affection as deep and lasting as nature can produce, and so noble as to be classed among the highest virtues in human nature.

But he was not content with this. He saw and felt through all his boyhood days a great want of facilities for literary improvement. With more sacrifice a great void could be filled, a great want supplied. He saw how he could fill the hearts of his boyhood's associates with pleasure and profit. And so he erected a rich building, put hundreds of volumes into it,—selected by the rare taste of his scholarly life companion, whose affections ran back along the lines of affinity to the home of his early childhood,—brought into it the young, strong and powerful men of his age and time, and with them solemnly pledged their

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

devotion to the most sacred principles of humanity and fraternity that ever filled the souls of men. All this was done with a single mind to conceive the work and a single hand to execute it. Nothing was done grudgingly ; nothing was wanting but what was supplied ; no aid was asked ; funds were supplied as freely as though the donor had been born rich, for his whole soul went out with the benefaction without the least mental reservation whatever. Heaven bless such donations and donors !

Colonel Benton has bestowed these gifts upon the donees deeming them worthy and well qualified to appreciate and reciprocate the noble, self-sacrificing spirit in which they are bestowed, and if they exercise half the zeal and earnestness in the preservation and appropriation of these rich gifts that the giver has in bestowing them, their blessings will continue till the last eye witness of the happy proceedings of last week shall be gone.

Guildhall, Vermont.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

August 15, 1901, Josiah H. Benton, Jr., and Calvin D. Crawford elected to membership.

The following vote of thanks extended to the ladies of Guildhall and Northumberland : —

“That the thanks of Benton Lodge, No. 88, A. F. & A. M., are hereby extended to the Committee on Collation for their help and support at the dedication of the Public Library, and that the Secretary enter this vote upon the journal of records, and that a copy be sent to the Chairman of said Committee, namely Mrs. Kate D. Hannaford.”

September 19, 1901.

Sixteenth Communication.

GUILDHALL, VT., September 16, A. L. 5901.

BROTHER : —

You are requested to assemble in Officers' Room, Thursday, September 19, A. L. 5901, at 6.15 P. M., to pay homage to the virtues and public services of BRO. WILLIAM MCKINLEY, late President of the United States, and to invoke the protection and guidance of Almighty God for our beloved country and for him who has had thrust upon him so suddenly the great responsibilities of the office of President.

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

At 6.30 P. M. the Lodge will be called to refreshment and repair to the Lodge Room, where public exercises will be held.

EVERETT C. BENTON,

Worshipful Master.

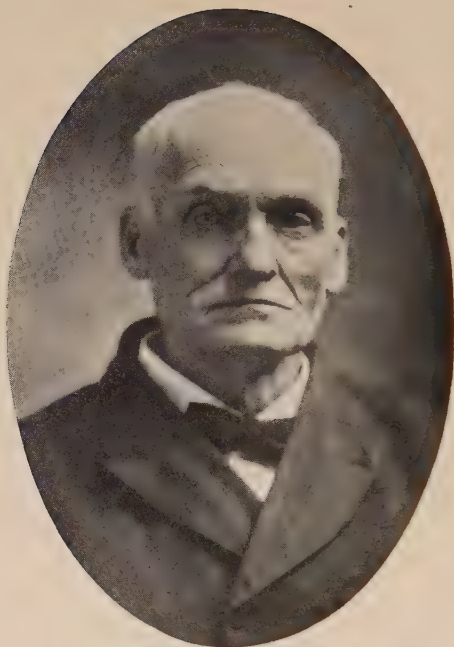
S. M. MATTHEWS,

Secretary.

(This was probably the first Masonic Memorial Meeting to the late President.)

October 17, 1901. Hon. Robert Chase presented organ to the Lodge, and the following vote of thanks was passed : —

The generosity of your recent gift to Benton Lodge, No. 88, makes it fitting and proper that we shall in some formal way assure you of our appreciation of the gift. In presenting a valuable organ to our Lodge you have not only given proof to us of your generosity and of your interest in the Lodge, but you have placed in the lodge room a permanent testimonial of this feeling, and have conferred a lasting benefit upon the Lodge, and we know that as long as the music of the organ shall contribute to the enjoyment of our labors, Benton Lodge will entertain the same cordial appreciation of the gift which it is our duty and pleasure to express to you now. In behalf of Benton Lodge the undersigned Committee thank you, Brother Chase, cordially and warmly for your generosity, and assure you that the gift is not more



WOR. BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW,
Past Master Benton Lodge, No. 88.

Guildball, Vermont.

pleasant on account of its value and usefulness than it is because it proves your interest in our Lodge and in Masonry.

[SIGNED] SAMUEL S. BENTON,
S. P. McLOUD,
Committee.

November 21, 1901. William C. Washburn elected to membership.

November 26, 1901. Special Communication to conduct Funeral Ceremony to our late

BRO. GEORGE FRED MARTIN.

Entered Feb. 23, 1869.

Raised April 27, 1869.

North Star Lodge, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.

Charter Member Benton Lodge, No. 88.

Died November 23, 1901.

January 16, 1902. Albert M. Drew, Jacob H. Welch, James Gullen, I. H. Quimby, F. A. Curtis and H. A. Chamberlain made members of the Lodge.

A beautiful water set and tray were presented to the Lodge by Bro. A. W. Scott.

February 20, 1902. Harry D. Rosebrook, Herbert M. Hubbard and Wilbur Arthur Rosebrook admitted to membership.

March 20, 1902. George A. Hubbard, N. B. Perkins and Charles J. Flanders admitted to membership. The Lodge was honored by having several

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

visitors from Lancaster, among whom was Rt. Wor. H. O. Kent, 33°, who assisted in the work of the Degree with his old comrade Perkins.

April 17, 1902. Annual Communication. Various officers reported, among them the report of Finance Committee, as follows : —

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, BENTON LODGE, No. 88, A. F. & A. M.

GUILDHALL, VT., April 17, 1902.

To the Members of Benton Lodge, No. 88, A. F. & A. M.

BRETHREN : —

Your Finance Committee beg leave to report that they have carefully and thoroughly examined the books of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and having found them correct and properly kept, have approved the same.

The messenger of death has visited us the past year, and Bro. George Fred Martin has gone, never to return. We shall miss him from among us for all time to come. Let us emulate his virtues, and keep his memory fresh in our minds.

Your Committee congratulates you on the prosperity of the Lodge, and trust that it will be your aim, as well as our own, to continue the harmonious and friendly feeling that now exists among us, and we hope that each member will give his earnest, persistent and constant attention to the promotion of its best interests, and we take this opportunity to extend

Guildhall, Vermont.

our thanks to each and every member for the generous and hearty support we have received at your hands during the past year, and trust that you will give the same generous support to the officers you will elect this night.

The Work Income and Expenses for the past year have been as follows:—

INCOME.

11 Applications for the Degrees, at \$5 . . .	\$ 55.00
13 Entered Apprentices, at \$5	65.00
17 Fellow Crafts, at \$5	85.00
19 Master Masons, at \$10	190.00
Received from Members in Dues	38.00
Received for 2 Life Memberships, at \$35 . .	70.00
Received from C. D. Crawford, Donation . .	4.50

Total Receipts \$507.50

EXPENSES.

Paid for return of Initiation Fee . \$	5.00
Paid Grand Lodge Tax, 40 members at 50 cents	20.00
Paid Grand Lodge on 13 Initiates at \$3	39.00
Paid Trustees of Permanent Fund (vote of Lodge, May, 1901) .	100.00
Paid Trustees of Permanent Fund 19 Master Masons, at \$5 . . .	95.00

Amount carried forward . . \$259.00

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

Amounts brought forward . \$259.00 \$507.50

Paid Trustees of Permanent Fund		
2 Life Memberships, at \$35 . .	70.00	
Paid District Deputy Grand Mas-		
ter's Expenses	13.16	
Paid Rent Grange Hall	7.00	
Paid for Lamb Skin Aprons . . .	13.00	
Paid for Treasurer's Books75	
Paid for Repairs on Paraphernalia,	1.00	
Paid for Insurance	20.00	
Paid for care of Hall and Para-		
phernalia	10.00	
Paid for Refreshments	35.96	
Paid for Postage, etc.	4.63	
		\$434.50
Leaving a balance on hand in the		
Treasurer's hands of		\$73.00

The Trustees of the Permanent Fund have
deposited in the Passumpsic Savings Bank,
of St. Johnsbury, Vt. \$292.25

They have on hand, in Cash, the additional
sum of 165.00

Total in hands of the Trustees . . \$457.25

E. C. BENTON,
F. N. PIPER,
AUGUSTUS DREW,
Committee.

Guildhall, Vermont.

Officers elected : —

Frank N. Piper, W. M.
Augustus Drew, S. W.
Albert W. Scott, J. W.
Stephen M. Matthews, Treasurer.
George A. Hubbard, Secretary.
S. T. Rogers, Trustee.
Richard Beattie, Trustee.

May 15, 1902. Officers elected at annual meeting and appointed installed by Wor. Bro. Everett C. Benton, assisted by Bro. Samuel T. Rogers, Marshal. The public were admitted.

After the officers had been installed and proclamation duly made Wor. Bro. Benton addressed the brethren and citizens, expressing his thanks for the many kindnesses shown him in the past, and gracefully retired from the chair, turning the gavel over to a good and true line of Masonic officers and workers.

Wor. Bro. Frank N. Piper in response spoke as follows : —

“Worshipful Brother Past Master Benton : It is our privilege at this time to address a few words to you that we trust will prove fitting, and accepted in the true sentiment in which they are intended to be expressed, though we sadly realize our inability to convey in our language the thoughts that shall adequately bespeak the gratitude and fraternal pleasure of our brethren.

Benton Lodge, No. 88.

“ We now review with satisfaction and much gratification the abundant success of your administration. Just honor to you can only be rendered by observing your precepts and imitating your noble example.

“ For your words of wisdom, counsel and instruction we reciprocate with fraternal gratitude, and the inspiration imparted, we are encouraged to labor with more energetic efforts for the betterment of mankind ; more especially ‘ those of the household of faith.’

“ While it may not be possible for us to be cheered by your individual presence at all our successive meetings, we shall behold you in our minds as we gather from time to time within these walls. Our best emotions well up within us with just pride as we contemplate with review the events of the past eighteen months. For this Lodge,— this building,— with its beautiful attendant surroundings, betokens for us a blazing light of hope, good cheer and increasing joy upon our pathway ; securing new friendships, harmony and brotherly love to all who are accustomed to meet within this sacred retreat ; formulated, and all brought about, through your laudable ambition and zealous attachment for the underlying principles of Free Masonry. Most generously contributed of your means, it has not disappointed the hopes and aspirations of those who cherish and hold it sacred. Through its results we are enabled to reap the benefits, having won for yourself universal esteem of a vast brotherhood, a new and nobler nature, and taken a

Gulldball, Vermont.

high place among the benefactors of mankind. This we believe is true happiness, the one worthy end of human existence and ambition, a satisfactory reward of labor, stirring activity, energy and ambitious efforts.

"We now receive it as a precious inheritance, doubly bound by the kind offices and example you have placed before us, and by the blessings and fraternal ties already enjoyed as the fruits of your labor our hearts shall enshrine your memory, and our tongues prolong your fame, always having a view in the future to transmit the same unimpaired to those who are to succeed us in coming years.

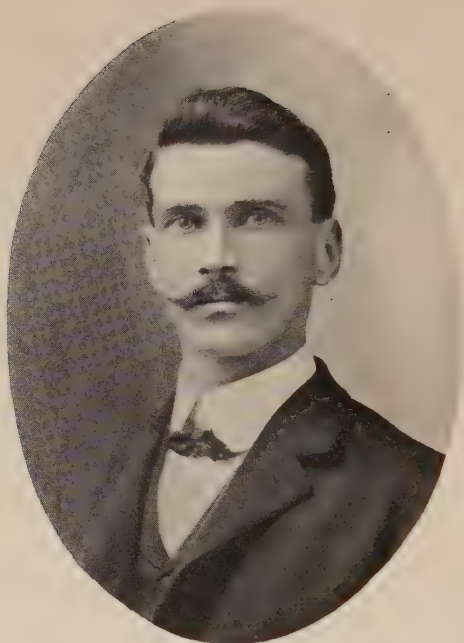
"Brother Benton, a very pleasant duty has been intrusted to me to perform at this time.

"In consideration of your past efforts — your ardor, zeal and interest in Masonry — the fraternity of your acquaintances, and we are glad that it is not confined within the sphere of Benton Lodge, or even to the realms of this 'North Country' of ours, but it broadens and verges out, radiating East, West and South, until a large brotherhood have been brought into closer relationship, more affectionate and lasting ties of esteem and veneration. Prompted with love and respect, they have placed in my hands this Masonic jewel and apron to present to you at this time, and we ask you to accept it as a testimonial of which we cherish your acquaintance and the admiration placed on the noble deeds of your outspoken generosity. Gifts of a pecuniary nature at times

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

seem to please and cheer our prospect in life ; but we know such little tokens of kindness as demonstrated in this act, in behalf of our friends, are valued by the possessor far more than worldly wealth and riches, that are of themselves destined to perish and decay. While the functions of life shall perform their natural law, so long we feel assured that you will prize its value, bespeaking in a silent way the gratitude of your Masonic brethren.

“The wide circle of membership embraced in your affiliations are only too glad to recognize this opportunity to share in this mark of distinction, most worthily bestowed. ‘And when at last your weary feet shall have reached the end of their toilsome journey,’ all the struggles and triumphs of your existence achieved, its battles fought, its conflicts and victories won, oftentimes as reminded, ‘May it be your portion to hear from Him who sitteth as the Judge Supreme’ the welcome words, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.’”



Wor. FRED L. FOLLANSBY.

MEMBERSHIP OF BENTON LODGE, No. 88.

CHARTER MEMBERS.

Benton, Everett Chamberlain
 Piper, Frank Nathaniel
 Drew, Augustus
 *Martin, George Fred

Matthews, Stephen Murray
 *Scott, Albert Woodburn
 Matthews, Sidney Gilbert
 Hall, Alfred Lewis

Downer, John Willard
 Philbrick, Royal H.
 Freeman, Ezra S.

MEMBERS.

NAME	INITIATED	PASSED	RAISED
Rogers, Samuel Thomas .	Nov. 15, 1900.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
Follansby, Fred Lucas .	Nov. 15, 1900.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
Poole, Rufus Kimble .	Nov. 15, 1900.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
Beattie, Richard .	Dec. 25, 1900.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
McLeod, Samuel Peter .	Dec. 20, 1900.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
Hall, Harley Sylvester .	Dec. 20, 1900.	April 18, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Drew, Albert Merrill .	Jan. 17, 1901.	Jan. 17, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Hall, Frank .	Jan. 17, 1901.	Jan. 17, 1901.	March 20, 1901.
Benton, Jay Bayard .	Jan. 17, 1901.	Jan. 17, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Lapelle, Elisha Elias .	March 21, 1901.	April 18, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Benton, Samuel Slade .	March 21, 1901.	April 18, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Ford, Frank Willard .	March 21, 1901.	April 18, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Hayes, Guy .	March 21, 1901.	April 18, 1901.	May 16, 1901.
Chase, Robert .	Elected	Member	May 16, 1901.
Curtis, Frank Adna .	May 17, 1901.	August 15, 1901.	August 15, 1901.
Flanders, Elmer Ellsworth	May 17, 1901.	May 17, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Wood, Fred Ober .	May 17, 1901.	May 17, 1901.	May 17, 1901.
Benton, Josiah Henry, Jr.	Elected	Member	May 17, 1901.
*Crawford, Calvin Densmore .	Elected	Member	August 15, 1901.

*Deceased.

MEMBERSHIP OF BENTON LODGE, No. 88.

NAME	INITIATED	PASSED	RAISED
Rosebrook, Harry Dexter .	Feb. 20, 1902.	Feb. 20, 1902.	Feb. 20, 1902.
Washburne, William Cutler .	Elected	Member	Nov. 21, 1901.
Quimby, Ira Hamilton .	Sept. 19, 1901.	Oct. 17, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Chamberlin, Henry Abial .	Sept. 19, 1901.	Oct. 17, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Gullen, James .	Sept. 19, 1901.	Oct. 17, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Welch, Jacob Harry .	Nov. 21, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.	Jan. 16, 1902.
Flanders, Charles James .	Nov. 21, 1901.	Feb. 20, 1902.	March 20, 1902.
Perkins, Napoleon Bonaparte .	Dec. 19, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.	March 20, 1902.
Hubbard, George Albert .	Dec. 19, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.	March 20, 1902.
Hubbard, Herbert Marshall .	Dec. 19, 1901.	Jan. 16, 1902.	March 20, 1902.
Rosebrook, Wilbur Arthur .	Elected	Member	Feb. 20, 1902.
Adams, Frank George .	June 19, 1902.	July 17, 1902.	August 21, 1902.
Ford, Benjamin Silsby .	June 19, 1902.	July 17, 1902.	August 21, 1902.
Stevens, Edward .	August 20, 1903.	Nov. 19, 1903.	Feb. 18, 1904.
Benton, Joseph .	June 18, 1903.	June 18, 1903.	Sept. 17, 1903.
Wentworth, Charles H. .	August 29, 1903.	Nov. 19, 1903.	March 17, 1904.
Allin, Charles H. .	Oct. 15, 1903.	March 17, 1904.	March 17, 1904.
Ford, Fred H. .	Oct. 15, 1903.	March 17, 1904.	March 17, 1904.
Pendriugh, Joseph M. .	August 18, 1904.	Dec. 15, 1904.	March 16, 1905.
Whitcomb, George F. .	Jan. 19, 1905.	Feb. 16, 1905.	March 16, 1905.
Bosworth, Asa C. .	Nov. 19, 1903.	Nov. 19, 1903.	May 19, 1904.
Emerson, Fred A. .	Dec. 17, 1903.	Dec. 17, 1903.	Oct. 29, 1904.
Burdick, Frank .	Nov. 19, 1903.	Nov. 19, 1903.	Feb. 18, 1904.
Bancroft, Charles G. .	Elected	Member	Nov. 20, 1903.
Henson, Harry B. .	Jan. 19, 1905.	Feb. 16, 1905.	March 16, 1905.

Organization for 1900.

BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON	-	-	-	-	Worshipful Master.
BRO. FRANK N. PIPER	-	-	-	-	Senior Warden.
BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden.
BRO. GEORGE F. MARTIN	-	-	-	-	Treasurer.
BRO. STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	-	Secretary.
BRO. E. S. FREEMAN	-	-	-	-	Chaplain.
BRO. ALBERT W. SCOTT	-	-	-	-	Senior Deacon.
BRO. SIDNEY G. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	-	Junior Deacon.
BRO. A. L. HALL	-	-	-	-	Senior Steward.
BRO. JOHN DOWNER	-	-	-	-	Junior Steward.
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK	-	-	-	-	Tyler.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. WOR. BRO. W. SCOTT NAY,
UNDERHILL, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

RT. WOR. BRO. W. M. RICH,
WEST CONCORD, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

Organization for 1901=1902.

WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON	-	-	-	-	-	Worshipful Master.
BRO. FRANK N. PIPER	-	-	-	-	-	Senior Warden.
BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW	-	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden.
BRO. GEORGE F. MARTIN	-	-	-	-	-	Treasurer.
BRO. STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	-	-	Secretary.
BRO. ALBERT W. SCOTT	-	-	-	-	-	Senior Deacon.
BRO. SIDNEY G. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	-	-	Junior Deacon.
BRO. A. L. HALL	-	-	-	-	-	Senior Steward.
BRO. JOHN DOWNER	-	-	-	-	-	Junior Steward.
BRO. FRED L. FOLLANSBY	-	-	-	-	-	Inside Sentinel.
BRO. EZRA S. FREEMAN	-	-	-	-	-	Honorary Chaplain.
BRO. ROBERT CHASE	-	-	-	-	-	Chaplain.
BRO. GUY C. HAYES	-	-	-	-	-	Marshal.
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK	-	-	-	-	-	Tyler.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
BRO. SAMUEL T. ROGERS.	BRO. SAMUEL S. BENTON.	

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. WOR. BRO. CHARLES R. MONTAGUE,
WOODSTOCK, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

RT. WOR. BRO. W. M. RICH,
WEST CONCORD, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

Organization for 1902=1903.

WOR. BRO. FRANK N. PIPER - - - *Worshipful Master.*
BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW - - - *Senior Warden.*
BRO. ALBERT W. SCOTT - - - *Junior Warden.*
BRO. STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS - - *Treasurer.*
BRO. GEORGE A. HUBBARD - - - *Secretary.*
BRO. FRED L. FOLLANSBY - - - *Senior Deacon.*
BRO. SAMUEL S. BENTON - - - *Junior Deacon.*

BRO. RUFUS K. POOLE - - - *Senior Steward.*
BRO. IRA H. QUIMBY - - - *Junior Steward.*
BRO. SIDNEY G. MATTHEWS - - - *Inside Sentinel.*
BRO. EZRA S. FREEMAN - - - *Honorary Chaplain.*
BRO. ROBERT CHASE - - - - *Chaplain.*
BRO. GUY C. HAYES - - - - *Marshal.*
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK - - - - *Tyler.*

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER. SENIOR WARDEN. JUNIOR WARDEN.
BRO. SAMUEL T. ROGERS. BRO. RICHARD BEATTIE.

PAST MASTER.

WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON, 1900-1901-1902.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. WOR. BRO. CHARLES R. MONTAGUE,
WOODSTOCK, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

RT. WOR. BRO. W. M. RICH,
WEST CONCORD, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

Organization for 1903=1904.

WOR. BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW	-	-	-	Worshipful Master.
BRO. ALBERT W. SCOTT	-	-	-	Senior Warden.
BRO. FRED L. FOLLANSBY	-	-	-	Junior Warden.
BRO. STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	Treasurer.
BRO. GEORGE A. HUBBARD	-	-	-	Secretary.
BRO. H. A. CHAMBERLIN	-	-	-	Senior Deacon.
BRO. R. K. POOLE	-	-	-	Junior Deacon.
BRO. I. H. QUIMBY	-	-	-	Senior Steward.
BRO. RICHARD BEATTIE	-	-	-	Junior Steward.
BRO. FRANK W. FORD	-	-	-	Inside Sentinel.
BRO. EZRA S. FREEMAN	-	-	-	Honorary Chaplain.
BRO. ROBERT CHASE	-	-	-	Chaplain.
BRO. GUY C. HAYES	-	-	-	Marshal.
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK	-	-	-	Tyler.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
BRO. SAMUEL T. ROGERS.	Rt. WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON.	

PAST MASTERS.

Rt. WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON, 1900-1901-1902.
 WOR. BRO. FRANK N. PIPER, 1902-1903.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. WOR. BRO. OLIN W. DALEY,
 WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

FOURTEENTH MASONIC DISTRICT.
 Rt. WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON,
 GUILDHALL, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

Organization for 1904=1905.

Wor. Bro. ALBERT W. SCOTT	-	-	-	Worshipful Master.
BRO. FRED L. FOLLANSBY	-	-	-	Senior Warden.
BRO. HENRY A. CHAMBERLAIN	-	-	-	Junior Warden.
BRO. STEPHEN M. MATTHEWS	-	-	-	Treasurer.
BRO. GEORGE A. HUBBARD	-	-	-	Secretary.
BRO. RUFUS K. POOLE	-	-	-	Senior Deacon.
BRO. IRA H. QUIMBY	-	-	-	Junior Deacon.
BRO. RICHARD BEATTIE	-	-	-	Senior Steward.
BRO. SAMUEL P. McLEOD	-	-	-	Junior Steward.
BRO. FRANK W. FORD	-	-	-	Inside Sentinel.
BRO. EZRA S. FREEMAN	-	-	-	Honorary Chaplain.
BRO. ROBERT CHASE	-	-	-	Chaplain.
BRO. GUY C. HAYES	-	-	-	Marshal.
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK	-	-	-	Tyler.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
Wor. Bro. FRANK N. PIPER.	Rt. Wor. Bro. EVERETT C. BENTON.	

PAST MASTERS.

Rt. Wor. Bro. EVERETT C. BENTON, 1900-1901-1902.
Wor. Bro. FRANK N. PIPER, 1902-1903.
Wor. Bro. AUGUSTUS DREW, 1903-1904.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. Wor. Bro. OLIN W. DALEY,
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

FOURTEENTH MASONIC DISTRICT.
Rt. Wor. Bro. L. A. COBB,
ISLAND POND, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

Organization for 1905.

WOR. BRO. FRED L. FOLLANSBY	-	-	-	-	Worshipful Master.
BRO. RUFUS K. POOLE	-	-	-	-	Senior Warden.
BRO. HENRY A. CHAMBERLAIN	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden.
BRO. FRANK N. PIPER	-	-	-	-	Treasurer.
BRO. FRANK G. ADAMS	-	-	-	-	Secretary.
BRO. RICHARD BEATTIE	-	-	-	-	Senior Deacon.
BRO. GEORGE A. HUBBARD	-	-	-	-	Junior Deacon.
BRO. FRANK W. FORD	-	-	-	-	Senior Steward.
BRO. JOSEPH M. PENDRIGH	-	-	-	-	Junior Steward.
BRO. BENJAMIN FORD	-	-	-	-	Inside Sentinel.
BRO. EZRA S. FREEMAN	-	-	-	-	Honorary Chaplain.
BRO. ROBERT CHASE	-	-	-	-	Chaplain.
BRO. GUY C. HAYES	-	-	-	-	Marshal.
BRO. ROYAL H. PHILBRICK	-	-	-	-	Tyler.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
WOR. BRO. FRANK N. PIPER.	Rt. WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON.	

PAST MASTERS.

Rt. WOR. BRO. EVERETT C. BENTON, 1900-1901-1902.
WOR. BRO. FRANK N. PIPER, 1902-1903.
WOR. BRO. AUGUSTUS DREW, 1903-1904.
WOR. BRO. ALBERT W. SCOTT (deceased), 1904.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M.

GRAND MASTER.

M. WOR. BRO. OLIN W. DALEY,
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

FOURTEENTH MASONIC DISTRICT.

Rt. WOR. BRO. CLARENCE L. CUTTING,
WEST CONCORD, VT.

Regular Communication Third Thursday in each Month.

IN · MEMORIAM.

Brother GEORGE FRED MARTIN.

Entered February 23, 1869.

Raised April 27, 1869,

North Star Lodge, No. 8, Lancaster, N. H.

Charter Member Benton Lodge, No. 88.

Died November 23, 1901.

" The land of song within thee lies,
Watered by living springs;
The lids of fancy's sleepless eyes
Are gates unto that Paradise,
Holy thoughts like stars arise,
Its clouds are angels' wings."

Guildball, Vermont.

Bro. GEORGE FRED MARTIN.

At a regular Communication held January 16, 1902, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted : —

It has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our ranks our worthy Brother, George F. Martin, and in view of the loss we have sustained by his death, and the still greater loss by those who were so near and dear to him, therefore be it

Resolved: That we, as members of Benton Lodge, No. 88, A. F. & A. M., a body bound together by the sacred ties of friendship, charity, and benevolence, will always cherish and hold in loving remembrance the memory of our departed Brother.

Resolved: That we, as a Lodge, condole with the bereaved family in their great sorrows, but, fully realizing the ineffectiveness of human consolation, commend them to the care and guidance of the Almighty.

Resolved: That, with true appreciation for a beloved Brother and a faithful citizen, a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our records, to keep his memory ever fresh in our hearts, a copy be inserted in each of the local papers, a copy be sent to the bereaved

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

family and friends, and that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days.

AUGUSTUS DREW,
RICHARD BEATTIE,
SAMUEL S. BENTON,
Committee on Resolutions.

S. M. MATTHEWS, *Secretary.*

IN MEMORIAM.

Brother CALVIN DENSMORE CRAWFORD.

Born December 31, 1825.

Entered May 28, 1864.

Raised August 18, 1864,

Pequossette Lodge, Watertown, Mass.

Elected Member Benton Lodge, No. 88, August 15, 1901.

Died March 8, 1903.

Oh, rest of God, that endeth every pain!
Oh, smile serene of peace that shall remain;
Oh, birth of being, when this faulty frame,
Sinks into nothingness, and death's a name!

.

Earth's passions perishing, now love alone,
Springs to its natural growth beside God's throne."

Guildhall, Vermont.

Bro. CALVIN DENSMORE CRAWFORD.

The Angel of Death has again visited us, and taken one who was not only very near and dear to the Craft, but to this, his native town, and to all who knew him.

He was born at Guildhall, Vt., December 31, 1825, and was a worthy descendant of an honorable ancestry, being the son of John and Mary (Rosebrook) Crawford. James Crawford, his ancestor, landed in Boston in 1726, and settled in Monson, Mass. As early as 1790 the Crawfords settled in the White Mountain region, and it was for his uncle, Abel Crawford, the celebrated Crawford Notch was named.

He started out in life at the age of eighteen, going to South Hadley, Mass., where he worked in a paper mill. In 1850 he moved to Brookline, Mass., and there started his career in the market gardening business, in which vocation he was unusually successful. Eight years later he moved to Watertown, where, under a contract, he carried on the then enormous market gardening industry on the Stickney Farm, composed of over seventy-five acres of the richest and best market garden producing section in the vicinity of Boston.

He was very successful, and for over twenty-six years devoted himself strictly to his own business, and, when he had concluded his labors, he had amassed a fortune. In 1884 he purchased an estate on Mt. Auburn Street, in Watertown, one of the

Benton Lodge, No. 88,

largest and finest in the suburbs of Boston, where he afterwards resided, and where, on the eighth day of March, 1903, he passed to the Grand Lodge above.

In January, 1857, he married Angeline C. Kimball, daughter of Moses Kimball, of Burke, Vt., who survives him.

He was initiated in Pequossette Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Watertown, Mass., May 28, 1864, passed July 7, 1864, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason August 18, 1864.

He became a member of Benton Lodge, No. 88, August 15, 1901. As a citizen and Mason he challenges the admiration and respect of all with whom he came in contact. His unceasing and zealous efforts in behalf, not only of our order, but ever reaching out to aid and succor suffering humanity; his lovable disposition, his high sense of honor, his hatred and contempt of meanness and double dealing had become a proverb; his strong conviction and great firmness of character was so tempered by gentleness of others as to disarm hostile criticism.

Brother Crawford was always interested in public affairs. He held many places of trust in town affairs, among which, being the highest position in the gift of the people of his adopted town, that of Selectman.

He was a prominent member of the Market Gardeners' Association, was a member of the Vermont Association of Boston, and for many years Trustee of the Watertown Savings Bank.

Guildhall, Vermont.

The death of a man so useful and beloved as our honored Brother will always be a cause of reasonable sorrow, but we find consolation in the reflection that, in his long and honorable life, he did great good to those about him ; that the influence of his character and life will be felt long after his departure ; that he left a sweet and stainless memory, a treasure to us of a constant incentive to well-doing, and of priceless value, as showing that the straight path of noble living is the way to pleasantness and peace.

He served his time ; he did his part ; and, now that he has crossed the Great Divide, we would remember him in appreciation, honor, affection, and respect. May our lives be as faithful as his, and God grant that, as he received highest honors among us on earth, his diadem may be bright in Heaven. From his silent life may there come to each of us a lesson to, —

“ So live, that when the summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
We go not, like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach (our) grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.”

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Benton
Lodge, No. 88, A. F. & A. M. :*

Your Committee, appointed to report Memorial on death of Bro. Calvin Densmore Crawford, reports the

Benton Lodge, No. 88.

foregoing and request that the same be acted upon at this time.

EVERETT C. BENTON,
ROBERT CHASE,
AUGUSTUS DREW,

Committee.

BENTON LODGE, No. 88, A. F. & A. M.,
GUILDHALL, VT., May 21, 1903.

At a stated Communication of the Lodge held this day, by a rising vote of all the brethren present, the foregoing Memorial was unanimously adopted, and it was voted that the same be spread upon the Records of the Lodge, and a copy forwarded to the family of the deceased Brother, and an additional copy forwarded, with best fraternal regards, to Pequossette Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Watertown, Mass.

FRANK N. PIPER,
Worshipful Master.

GEORGE A. HUBBARD, *Secretary.*

IN MEMORIAM.

Worshipful Brother
ALBERT WOODBURN SCOTT.

Born at BAKERSFIELD, VT., September 16, 1869.

Raised in Moose River Lodge, No. 82, in 1899.

Charter Member Benton Lodge, No. 88.

Died at Bakersfield, Vt., September 29, 1904.

"One by one we miss the faces
Of the forms we once caressed;
One by one their names are written
Ceased to Labor! Home! At Rest!"



Wor. ALBERT WOODBURN SCOTT.

Guildhall, Vermont.

Wor. ALBERT WOODBURN SCOTT.

(By Wor. Bro. Frank N. Piper, Past Master Benton Lodge, No. 88.)

Born at Bakersfield, Franklin County, Vermont, September 16, 1869.

His early life was spent on the home farm, performing the usual service allotted to farmers' boys, attending the public schools, the Academy at Bakersfield, and for a time was engaged in teaching, reading medicine with A. D. Patten, M. D., of East Fairfield, Vt., entering the Medical College at Burlington, Vt., in the year 1889, from which he graduated in 1891, and soon after located, for the practice of his profession, in Lunenburg, Vt., residing there six years. A better opening for him at Groveton, N. H., to which place he removed, with his family, in 1897, where he continued in active practice to within a short time of his death.

He married Viola M. Chase, daughter of Mr. Percy Chase, of East Fairfield, Vt., and to them a son was born, H. Woodburn Scott.

During the time he was at Lunenburg he made application for the degrees of Masonry in Moose River Lodge, No. 82, Concord, Vt.; accepted and initiated May 19, 1892; received the Fellow Craft Degree June 16, 1894, and raised to Master Mason June 16, 1894.

While at Groveton he joined the Knight Templars of North Star Commandery, at Lancaster, N. H.

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Taking a demit from Moose River Lodge, he became one of the charter members of Benton Lodge, No. 88, and, for his recognized ability and enthusiasm, he was appointed the first Senior Deacon and succeeded the following years to the stations of Junior and Senior Wardens.

At the Annual Communication in May, 1904, to one of his intimate friends he said, "My ambition has been to live to be installed Master of Benton Lodge, and this is one of the proudest and happiest moments of my life," and, although at this time suffering greatly from physical disease, his whole being was buoyant and hopeful of life, to carry out, to the best of his ability, the tenets and obligations belonging to the Masonic brotherhood.

During the months following the installation he was doing all within his power to baffle his disease and recover his health. His hopeful letters, the words of encouragement, and, later on, when it became known to him that very soon the parting must come, informed his brethren that he was not afraid to die, but could meet the grim tyrant Death, and welcome him as a kind messenger sent from Heaven. His death occurred at Bakersfield, September 29, 1904, and he was buried in the family burial lot, at Bakersfield Cemetery, October 2, 1904.

A cloudy, rainy, and cheerless morning, yet, as we gathered at that parental home on the hillside in the afternoon, our hearts saddened, our grief shared with

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those near and dear to him, the clouds dispersed, the sun shone out, lighting up with gilded glory the extended view of landscape (in life so much prized by him), — our sorrow lessens, — our thoughts uplifted, “that it is not all of life to live, or all of death to die.”

Brother Scott was a true, honest-hearted gentleman, a devoted and enthusiastic Mason, giving of his time and means to disseminate the true principles of the Craft, always an “attentive ear” to those requiring assistance, kind and considerate for those less fortunate. At his request Benton Lodge, with Past Worshipful Master Everett C. Benton as Master, officiated at his funeral, the brethren attending in a body. The Grand Lodge was represented by G. Rt. W. Walter E. Ranger, Deputy Grand Master, and Rt. W. Lee S. Tillottson, Grand Junior Warden, assisted by both the Masonic Lodges of Bakersfield and Fairfield. The large gathering of people attested to his worth as a man, citizen, and friend.

The Masonic service rendered at the grave, — the spotless lambskin so worthily bestowed and honorably worn in life, placed by the kind hand of the Master upon the now silent bosom, the evergreen symbol of our faith “in immortal life,” — we are solaced and comforted by the reflection that his part in life was well taken, though the “implements of labor fall from the nerveless grasp.” His memory will live, his virtues we will emulate, and amid our tears and

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sorrow, the words of the poet come to us in language forceful and true,—

“ Brother, rest from sin and sorrow,
Death is o'er, and life is won;
On thy slumber dawns no morrow;
Rest! thine earthly race is won.”

At a regular Communication of Benton Lodge, No. 88, held December 15, 1904, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Grand Master to summons from labor our Worshipful Master, Albert Woodman Scott ; therefore be it

Resolved : That Benton Lodge, No. 88, A. F. & A. M., has sustained an irreparable loss ; that the brethren remember his enthusiastic interest, not only in all Masonic matters, but in each others individual welfare and happiness, his cheering words of wisdom and counsel.

Resolved : That the Fraternity of Benton Lodge extend their heartfelt sympathy to the family of our deceased Brother, assuring them that his memory, his standing qualities of manhood, will always be cherished with the most tender recollections, and that “ He who ruleth all things well ” will mitigate and soften the sorrow that pervades the hearts of his dear friends ; and further

Resolved : That Benton Lodge be draped in mourning until its next installation of officers ; that a copy

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of these Resolutions be published and sent to the family of the deceased Brother, and the same placed upon the Records of the Lodge.

FRANK N. PIPER,
EVERETT C. BENTON,
ROBERT CHASE,

Committee on Resolutions.

A true copy.

Attest : GEO. A. HUBBARD, *Secretary.*

At a regular Communication of Barnes Lodge, U. D., held in Masonic Hall, Bakersfield, Vt., Wednesday evening, December 28, 1904, the following resolutions regarding the death of Bro. A. W. Scott, Worshipful Master of Benton Lodge, No. 88, of Guildhall, Vt., were presented, accepted, and ordered to be spread upon the Records of the Lodge.

Whereas, it has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the universe to remove from our midst our dearly beloved Brother, Albert W. Scott, therefore be it resolved, that we, as fellow townsmen, and the Masonic Fraternity especially, have sustained an irreparable loss. That this Lodge has lost a Brother who, by his kindly interest in our welfare, has helped, by word and deed, to endear himself to us by cheering words of wisdom and good counsel while with us as a visiting Brother and Master of Benton Lodge, No. 88, of Guildhall, Vt.

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And be it further Resolved that the brethren of Barnes Lodge, U. D., extend to his family our heartfelt sympathies for his untimely death, and assuring them that his memory will always be cherished by the members of this Lodge. And be it further Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the Records of this Lodge, and copy thereof be sent by the Secretary to the deceased Brother's family.

W. H. GIDDINS,
Worshipful Master.

F. W. DAVIS, *Secretary.*

**By-Laws of Benton Lodge, No. 88,
A. F. & A. M.,
Guildhall, Vermont.**

ARTICLE I.

COMMUNICATIONS.

SECTION 1. The regular Communications of this Lodge shall be held on the third Thursday of each month, at such hour as shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master.

SECT. 2. The annual Communication shall be held on the third Thursday in April, at such hour as shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS.

SECT. 1. All Master Masons who have been raised or unanimously elected to membership in this Lodge and have subscribed to its By-Laws, shall be members thereof.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. The first five Officers — Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer and

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Secretary—shall be elected at the annual Communication in each year. The Senior and Junior Deacons, Senior and Junior Stewards, Chaplain, Marshal and Tyler, shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master at any time previous to the installation of Officers. Other Officers may be appointed at the discretion of the Worshipful Master, and approval of Wardens. The Officers of the Lodge shall hold their respective offices until their successors are installed; and the annual installation shall be at the regular Communication in May, unless two-thirds of the members present at the Annual Communication vote otherwise. But in the event of any Officer, elected or appointed, who is necessarily absent at the annual installation, such Officer or Officers may be installed at any subsequent Communication that year, by permission of the Worshipful Master.

SECT. 2. The Master shall preside over, govern and instruct the Lodge, order special Communications whenever the interest of the Lodge requires them, and appoint all committees whose election may not be otherwise provided for in the By-Laws.

SECT. 3. The Wardens shall assist the Master in the business of the Lodge, and in the absence of the Master the Senior Warden shall preside, and in the absence of the Master and Senior Warden the Junior Warden shall preside.

SECT. 4. The Lodge shall not be open, or business transacted, when the Master and Wardens are all absent.

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SECT. 5. The Treasurer shall keep in a book prepared for that purpose, and belonging to the Lodge, a record of all moneys received and expended. He shall pay such moneys out on bills approved by the Finance Committee, with the consent of the Lodge. He shall, as indicated by these By-Laws, place under the control of the Trustees the amount pledged to the Permanent Fund. He shall make a report in writing at each annual meeting.

SECT. 6. The Secretary shall notify every member whose address is known of the day and hour of each meeting, and shall notify all committees of their appointment. He shall keep an accurate record of all moneys received on behalf of the Lodge, showing the sources from which the income is derived, and shall pay said moneys to the Treasurer monthly. He shall provide an apron for each candidate initiated, and a diploma for each candidate receiving the Third Degree. He shall, at each annual meeting and before the election, read the list of members in arrears for more than one year's dues. He shall also make a report at each annual meeting, showing the receipts for the year, the work, and the memberships commenced, suspended and terminated.

SECT. 7. The Master and Wardens shall constitute the Finance Committee. They shall audit all demands against the Lodge and recommend action, have access at all times to the books of the Treasurer and Secretary, and shall make a thorough examination of their

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accounts and report thereon in writing at the annual meeting.

SECT. 8. The Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler shall be exempt from annual dues. The Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler shall each be paid such a sum for services as the Lodge may from time to time, by vote, determine; but such compensation, once established, shall not be diminished within the period for which such officer has been elected or appointed, except with his own consent.

ARTICLE IV.

CANDIDATES.

SECT. 1. Every application for the Degrees or for affiliation shall, when duly received, be referred to a committee of three, and a report of a majority of said committee shall be made to the Lodge before balloting. The names of the Committee shall not be announced in open Lodge, but shall be recorded by the Secretary, and, as a part of the records, be read at the next regular meeting.

SECT. 2. An applicant for the Degrees shall deposit five dollars with his application, shall pay five dollars before initiation, five dollars before receiving the Second Degree, and ten dollars before receiving the Third Degree.

SECT. 3. No candidate shall receive the Degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason until he has borne in open Lodge, or before a committee appointed for

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that purpose, a satisfactory examination for admission to a Lodge of the preceding Degree, unless excused by the Worshipful Master.

SECT. 4. Whenever a candidate for the Degrees or an application for membership is rejected, all fees which he has paid shall be returned to him, and any Brother improperly disclosing such rejection or the circumstances attending it shall, if a visitor, be forever debarred from visiting the Lodge, or if a member, be dealt with as the Lodge shall determine. That no Brother may plead ignorance, this By-Law shall be read in open Lodge immediately after the rejection of any candidate.

SECT. 5. If the candidate for the Degrees does not present himself for initiation within one year after being elected he shall not be initiated without a new petition; and the fee shall be at the disposal of the Lodge.

SECT. 6. No petition shall be received except at a regular Communication, and shall not be acted upon until the next regular Communication, and shall not be withdrawn. The petition and action of the Lodge upon it shall be recorded in the Books of the Records of this Lodge,

SECT. 7. All ballots for the Degrees shall be taken in a Master's Lodge, and no one allowed to vote but a member of the Lodge.

SECT. 8. If a member of this Lodge is suspended or expelled, the Secretary shall immediately give notice to the Grand Secretary.

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ARTICLE V.

DUES.

SECT. 1. The annual dues shall be \$2.00, payable in advance at the April Communication; but all members who are more than sixty-five years of age shall not be required to pay any dues, except such amount as is required by the Grand Lodge for per capita and Masonic Temple Tax.

SECT. 2. Any member in arrears for more than one year's dues shall be liable to suspension on proper trial.

SECT. 3. Any Brother suspended under the provisions of Section 2 may be reinstated by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting, provided he has paid all dues and demands standing on the books against him, together with the whole sum which would have been charged against him had he been so suspended; but it shall be competent for the Lodge, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, to accept a smaller sum, the same not to be less than the amount due at the date of suspension.

SECT. 4. The dues of any member may be excused at any regular Communication by a majority vote of the Lodge.

SECT. 5. The fee for life membership shall be \$35.00, which shall be in full settlement for all future dues and assessments.

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ARTICLE VI.

PERMANENT FUND.

SECT. 1. The Worshipful Master as Chairman, the Senior Warden as Treasurer, the Junior Warden as Secretary, and two members not officers of the Lodge shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund of this Lodge. Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The two members not holding office in the Lodge shall be elected at the first annual meeting after these By-Laws go into operation, for terms of one and two years respectively, and thereafter one member shall be elected for two years at each annual meeting.

SECT. 2. The Permanent Fund shall consist of five dollars of the total fee paid for Degrees by each candidate receiving the three Degrees in this Lodge, all moneys received from life memberships, and of such other moneys as may be specially donated to the fund or voted by the Lodge.

SECT. 3. The fund shall be securely invested in the name of "The Trustees of the Permanent Fund of Benton Lodge." The principal of said fund shall never be expended except by vote of a majority of the entire membership of the Lodge, specially notified of such proposed action.

SECT. 4. The income of the fund may be expended by the Trustees for purposes of charity, not exceeding fifteen dollars in any individual case without authority from the Lodge therefor. The balance of the income,

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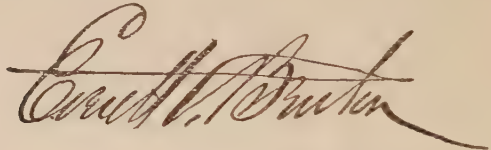
if any, may be used for ordinary expenses if the Lodge, by vote, so directs, but the unexpended balance shall, at the expiration of one year from the time it was earned, be added to and become a part of the principal.

SECT. 5. The Trustees, acting as a Committee on Charity, shall recommend to the Lodge such expenditures for charitable purposes as cannot be made from the income of the Permanent Fund. They shall make a report in writing at each annual meeting, setting forth their action for the year and the condition of the fund.

ARTICLE VII.

AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Communication by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment be first stated in writing at a regular Communication, and a notice thereof be borne upon the notification for said regular Communication.



Worshipful Master.



Secretary.

